

**BECAUSE OF YOU, ALLAH:
JOURNEY TO THE SEVENTH HEAVEN**

Ali Bin Gaber Al-Faifi

Dar Al-Hadara for Publishing and Distribution

First Edition

Translated by:

Mr. Emad Elbanna

Mr. Tariq Samy

Edited by:

Miranda Martin

In The Name of Allah, The Most Merciful, The Most Gracious

Dedicated To...

To the one who said to me once a night

When I was at the age of seven:

Did you pray Al-Isha?

I replied –deceptively- yes !

Hence she looked with suspicion, then she said:

Say whatever you desire,

But He saw you !

This “He saw you” frightened me,

Pushed me to go to pray...in spite of my false claim!

To my mother...

Because You are Allah...there is neither fear, nor worry,

Nor sunset, nor night, nor twilight.

Because You are Allah, my heart with hope is overwhelmed.

Because You are Allah, my soul is set aglow.

Preface

All praise be to Allah, and may prayers and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah, his family, his companions, and those who have followed him.

These words are about some of the names of Allah. I wrote them with my weak knowledge of the All-Strong, with my impotent soul about the Omnipotent, and with my unawareness of the Omniscient—Glorious and Exalted is He...

I was keen on making these words understandable to the laymen, readable to the patient one in his bed and to the one overwhelmed with sorrow and grief and to the destitute one throughout his ordeals...

I am certain that tying the heart to Allah, believing, deliberating, loving, fearing, and yearning for Him—as it is the secret to happiness in the Hereafter-- is the secret to happiness in the worldly life as well. The stages of sadness, doubts, and ordeals shall end completely if the slave of Allah directs the compass of his interest to the One who did not create him except to worship Him...

The glorified names of Allah are a great component of belief. The slave delves through them to a special sacred world which moves one to kneel down in awe and inspires the soul to invoke Allah in a submissive and loving way...

This book was written out of my intention to show the way to Allah, even though my knowledge and ability to describe Him is little compared to His true description, and especially to remind myself and my brothers and sisters that Allah has power over all things. His favor is great, and He is the Hearing, the Seeing...

I opt from this book to pat with these words on shoulders overburdened with pain and to clear, with these words, minds from ordeals that have immersed them with headaches. I desire to wipe away with my letters the tears and to put out the fire of the ribs ...

Without learning the meaning of the names of Allah, surely, we are at loss in a vast desert, our days squandered under the heat of this desert and the whirlpool of the dunes of psychological distress...

Seek Allah: in knowledge, fully believing, worshiping, in submission, then in comfort, happiness, and pleasure...

Or seek loss, destitution, suffocation, deep depression, and psychological disruption ...

In this book, neither knowledge nor science nor precedence I claim. What I acknowledge is my impotence and my dire need to be rewarded the forgiveness and satisfaction of the Exalted in the heaven...

If there is a mere seed of knowledge in this book, I plea for Allah to spread it amongst the people. If the opposite is true—that there is no knowledge—the Exalted in the heaven has known all of my impotence, and I hope to know some of His forgiveness...

I supplicate Allah to purify my intentions and to be forgiven from what my hand may cause of wrong or any misconceptions in my heart...

Prayers and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah...and our last supplication is all praise is due to Allah, The Lord of the worlds...

Ali Gaber Al-Faifi

27/7/1437 AH

As-Samad
The Eternal Refuge

All the world would not be able to harm you, if Allah did not will it to be so...

And all the world would not be able to dispel an evil from you, if Allah willed it for you...

The Eternal Refuge

If the weakness has built around you a confining prison and you are unable to escape...

If the needs have surrounded you, the ordeals have attacked you, the worries have encircled you, and your soul has attempted to escape to the oblivion... In this time, you are in a bad need to seek His eternal refuge...

Allah's name, "As-Samad", the Eternal Refuge, shall supply you not only with what you really need to be strong in this life but also with what shall make you encounter your reality with dignity and transcend your psychological issues with persistence!

Commence with As-Samad into a new era trusting that tomorrow is going to be much better than today!!

▪ In the Shadows of the Meaning of As-Samad

The name "As-Samad," is a great distinction with strong letters, lofty in meaning, rare in comparison, without any equal, with special majesty.

Therefore, worshiping Him by acknowledging that He is the only refuge is considered the highest level of worship. The one who frequently mentions the meaning of the Eternal Refuge in his worship, his heart acquires the quality of submission to Allah and seeking only Him.

Here, we shall delve into the world of Eternal Refuge to get some inspiration from the meaning of As-Samad:

As-Samad is the One whose eternal refuge is sought by all creation. I.e., they see Him as the only resort in times of strife. We shall delve further into this meaning...

As-Samad is the One sought after for all desires, the One called upon in the time of ordeals, the One who is run to in awe at the time of disasters.

As-Samad was mentioned in one of the greatest and shortest surahs of the Holy Qur'an. It is Surah Al-Ikhlās which consists of the equivalent of one third of the Holy Qur'an because of its great significance:

{Say, "He is Allah, {who is} One, (1) Allah, The Eternal Refuge."}

The creature needs victory, so he pleads, saying: Oh Allah...

Then he needs help, so he pleads: Oh Allah...

Then he needs a reminder, so he pleads: Oh Allah...

Then he needs guidance, so he pleads: Oh Allah...

Then he needs mercy, so he pleads: Oh Allah...

▪ Waves...

He has surrounded you with a bunch of needs to make you in need of surrounding yourself with His names and qualities; this is the meaning of the Eternal Refuge.

In every situation of your life you will find yourself in need of Him. Therefore, if you do not return to Him by your will, you will return to Him by compulsion.

The farmer, when the time of harvest is delayed and he finds himself in a very bad need to collect the yield, and when water becomes sparse, looks at the sky and says: Oh Allah!

Passengers on board a ship in the time of mountain-like waves, when they are surrounded with doubtful ideas of living or dying, they don't have anything to say except: Oh Allah!

If the captain of a plane declared that the wheels of it are struggling to roll on the landing, so he is going to stay in the air until the problem is solved, the passengers on board the plane would forget all important matters and think only about the One in whose hand is the realm of all things and who protects while none can protect against Him.

In the hospital when your eye is chasing the electrocardiogram, staring at the sinus rhythms and your patient's breathing is fading, his heart beats are shrinking, the sinus rhythms are gradually slowing down—in this moment you forget the nurse and from your head the doctor's face evaporates and you utter in urgency: Oh Allah, please be his support!

▪ The thoughts of disbelief

A Bedouin Sheikh called Al-Hossain came to the Prophet, peace be upon him, and the Prophet questioned him: “How many deities are you worshiping, O Al-Hossain?” He replied: “Seven—six in the earth and one in the heaven.” The Prophet, peace be upon him, continued: “Who is for your frightening moments?” He replied: “The one who lies in the heaven.” “And who is for the moments of your desires?” He said: “The one who is in the heaven.” Therefore, the Prophet (PBUH) commented, saying: “Leave those who lie in the earth and worship the One who is in the heaven.” Then Al-Hossain converted to Islam <sup>1> !

Al-Hossain has understood the meaning of the Eternal Refuge, because the one to whom you run in the time of awe and desire is the only One who deserves to be prostrated to!

Belief in Allah is the easiest concept in existence; it neither needs books nor philosophy nor introspection nor analysis to understand it. It is a word. Say it with sincerity and leave it to disband the thoughts of disbelief...

The Holy Qur'an summarizes all of this in the ayah: {Say, “Allah [revealed it].” Then leave them in their [empty] discourse, amusing themselves.”}

The word “Allah” is enough to mute the greatest lies in life...

In the depth of each human being, deep inside each cell, and around each artery, there are entities that know Allah very well, and they prostrate to and praise Him...

(1) Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi in his book Jami` at-Tirmidhi (3820-12/452)

In spite of the disbeliever's disbelief, when he hears the Qur'an, he feels its greatness...

From the stories of the life of the Prophet, peace be upon him, when he recited Surah An-Najm to the disbelievers of Mecca at the Kaaba and upon finishing the recitation, all of them prostrated—even those who had burned the Prophet, peace be upon him, harmed him, and had planned to assassinate him! They prostrated to Allah!

A great believing power burst into their cells and arteries quickly leading them to prostrate to Allah.

▪ **The Planets**

He created in the souls of His slaves a need to love Him!

There is a sort of sacred love in the hearts of His slaves that can't be quenched except by prostrating to Him, walking around His Kaaba, standing between His hands, waking up from sleep to pray to Him, and sacrificing all your desires for His pleasure.

All of this worldly life with its components is just made up of messages saying to you: "The One you are looking for is above His Throne hearing you (The Most Merciful [who is] above the Throne established)..."

A man chases a woman until they are alone, so he asks her to give him herself but she refuses! He tries to persuade her, saying: "No one sees us except the planets." She replies confidently: "Where is the One who established them in the heavens?"

Where is Allah?!

He can be found in a heart clinging to the Eternal Refuge, deliberating upon Him and His names and attributes, totally believing that He is the Omniscient, the All-Aware, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the All-Encompassing!

And your complete seeking of Allah's refuge is like seeking to pray in the Kaaba.

The heart should be like this, distributing all the desires in all their destinations, but the central destination should be only for Allah...

Place the right and left sides of your heart on what you wish, but the front place, leave it only for the satisfaction, deliberation, and love of Allah.

▪ **And you forget Him....**

If you've searched for something and it was hard to find, leave it and occupy your time with Allah.

He is the One who destined for this thing to be lost, so seek His refuge and say: "O Allah, find for me my lost possession," then He will find it! He wants you to be busy with Him, not with your lost thing, but you get busy with it and forget Him!!

Sheikh Ibn Taymiyyah ,may Allah have mercy on him, has deep, precious words about this subject. Thus, meditate on them with your heart then keep them with you on your journey, fighting against your pains, ordeals, and desires. He says:

“ A slave would be inflicted by a hardship, so his plea would be for fulfilling his need and releasing his ordeals. So he stays praying and supplicating. Even this is considered worship and obedience. Then it would be his intention in the beginning of the matter to achieve these needs: sustenance, victory, and ultimate health. Praying and supplicating would open for him a new door of belief, love, and deep trust in Allah, along with great happiness from mentioning and praying to Him. Then, what would be more beloved and more wonderful than this ordeal which he was inflicted by. This is from the mercy of Allah on all of His worshipers. He guides them from secular needs to lofty religious purposes.”

Because of the lack of precipitation and the arid life in the time of Moses, peace be upon him, he went forth with his people who were composed of thousands of men, women and children. On his way he found an ant also searching for water, lifting its hands in the sky, seeking the refuge of Allah. Moses knew that this seeking of Allah’s refuge and the submission to the will of Allah was going to end only in a heavy rain. Therefore, he ordered his people to return, because they came to survive from the supplication of the ant. They returned with the rumble of thunder above them and sprinkles of rain falling on their heads!

In my childhood, I used to hear the prayer of some of the reciters of the Qur’an. They would supplicate: “Our Lord! We have come to Your gateway (mosque) and anchored our mounts thereto. May You not dispel us.” This anchoring of mounts in the gateway of the Generous is the meaning of As-Samad.

▪ **Seek His Eternal Refuge**

You should believe that if He did not give permission for the medicine to be effective in your body, your diseases would stay with you. Therefore, seek His Eternal Refuge to be cured...

You should believe in the depth of your heart that if He did not keep the rushing automobiles away from you, you would be among the dead. Therefore, seek His refuge to be guarded...

You have to be certain that if He did not surround you with His care when you ride on board a ship, you would be bait for the ocean fish. Therefore, seek His refuge to be with you ...

This is why you seek His eternal refuge to feel at ease, to release your tension, because without Him you run, gasp, and strain.

Give me all your ears, those who are frenzied by the waves at sea or those who see death coming to haunt their souls. The winds of ups and downs are aggressively blowing. You will hear all of them, regardless of their different religions, howling his name: "O Allah!"

{It is He who enables you to travel on land and sea until, when you are in ships and they sail with them by a good wind and they rejoice therein, there comes a storm wind and the waves come upon them from every place and they expect to be engulfed, they supplicate Allah, sincere to Him in religion, "If you should save us from this, we will surely be among the thankful."}

He planted inside of you a need to say His name. There would be peace spreading in all of your soul, if only you said: "O Allah." And if you do not say it willingly, you will say it by compulsion. If you do not mention it out of belief, you will mention it out of obligation. And if it was not your word in prosperity, it will be your word in affliction!

▪ **Compass**

Why do we wait for a sudden strife to bring us back to Him? A dilemma to remind us of His name? A disaster so that we return to the mosques?

Does He not deserve to be sought and submitted to even when you are not in ordeals, disasters, and strife?

Is all of what He has given us of life, health, belief, peace, and happiness little so we do not kneel down before Him except with an affliction that makes us forget all of our delusions? In the middle of this affliction, nothing can stay in our minds except Allah!

Fix the compass of your heart towards Him, then walk to Him, even crawling on your knees. In the end, you will reach Allah. ﴿And to Allah belongs the East and the West. So wherever you [might] turn, there is the Face of Allah. Indeed, Allah is All-Encompassing and Knowing.﴾

If you sought someone's help in the morning and he obliged you, he might slam the door in your face at night.

If he supported you against someone, he might support someone against you the next time.

If he gave you today, he might deprive you tomorrow.

But Allah....is incomparable!

﴿He is the Ever-living: there is no deity except Him, so call upon Him, [being] sincere to Him in religion.﴾

He is All-Giving per day and per night. He supports you against all people if you are oppressed. His door is always open, with generosity per day and per night, the most generous of all, therefore all creatures seek His eternal refuge. If you attempted to seek eternal refuge in other than Him you will find that you are lost and disappointed. This is the reality!

If you asked other than Him, the person might ignore you, or he might answer your order but after a long period, or answer but not in the required manner, or he might answer completely but with disgrace. And he might not humiliate you, but your soul would be in submission to him rather than to Allah...

- **Don't attribute equals to Allah**

A long time ago, I entered a Vice-Chancellor's office at a university, and I had written a note to him concerning my school, explaining to him some details. He said to me: "Do not proceed. This is nonsense!"

People do not want to hear what you have to say if they think what you're saying is nonsense, whereas Allah loves to listen to you even if what you're saying truly is nonsense! He likes the slave who is persistent in prayingThus, why do you complain to the others and leave Him?

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said to Ibn Abbas: “If you ask, then ask Allah.”^{<1>}
If there is a need to ask; so make the order to be for Allah!

A saying by Abo Hamid Al-Ghazaly that captured my attention was about a true believer discussing the greatest name of Allah: “Avoid attributing equals to Allah, then ask Him in your prayer using any of His names, and He shall answer your prayer ...”

This is the gist of the name As-Samad. Place Allah in your heart, then say anything that will be to His satisfaction. The result will be heavenly.

Any sudden change you face is a mere message that says to you: “You have a God, so go and seek His refuge...”

Sickness is a message that makes you kneel down in submission to Him....

Poverty is a letter that says prostrate to Him...

Weakness is a call that says to you derive your power from the All-Powerful...

Everything in life shouts in your face: “There is a God. Seek His eternal refuge!”

In the abovementioned hadith of Ibn Abbas, the Prophet (PBUH) says: “Be mindful of Allah, and you will find Him in front of you.” ^{<2>}

In front of you!!

^{<1>} Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi in his book Jami` at-Tirmidhi (2516-4/667)

^{<2>} Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi in his book Jami` at-Tirmidhi (2516-4/667)

Be mindful of Him in your soul, in your organs, in your thoughts, and He will be in front of you with His protection, care, and support.

As-Samad... The hearts of His slaves can't be calmed except by putting their luggage in the threshold of His reign...

▪ Steps

Look to any direction you wish, but plant in your heart two eyes that are banned to look except upon His greatness!

Speak what you desire, but place in your heart a tongue that is forbidden to speak except with His mentioning!

Listen to anything, but create in your heart an ear that can't recognize except His words!

Walk anywhere you desire, but carve in your heart steps that end with the Throne of the King of Kings!

Cling to Him with your heart, soul, thoughts, body, will, dreams, and fantasies...

If you grab a pen to write, question yourself if it shall please the Exalted in the heavens or not?

If you were about to utter a word, question yourself if it shall satisfy Him or not?

If you stand to do something, ask yourself if it shall be approved by Allah or not?

Create a clock and hang it up at the top of your heart which chimes:

What does Allah want? What does Allah want? What does Allah want?

Deliberate upon Him all the time. And if you wake up in the middle of the night, mention Him and remember that all of your imagination is black without Him being there, your mind is ruined without Him being mentioned within it, your dreams are swamps except with the mention of the Ever-Living who does not die, and then the dreams change to that of rivers, trees, and singing nightingales.

▪ **Pride ...**

If you teach your soul to cling to His eternal refuge, in time it will feel shy to demand a lot of secular needs because they are not what you were created for. All of your hopes should be attached to the life of the Hereafter...

The Caliph, in his wandering around the Kaaba, said to Ibn Omar: "Ask me for anything you need." Ibn Omar looked at him with confidence in the Eternal Refuge

and said: “From the matter of this life or the Hereafter?” The other replied: “The Hereafter is in the hand of Allah, but from the matter of this life I can provide.” So he said: “I did not ask for this life from the One who owns it, so how dare I ask it from the one who does not own anything of it?!”

Seeking the eternal refuge of the Greatest makes you great without taking any interest in the owners of the dust (i.e., owners of created things, such as houses, cars, etc.)...

This worldly life is a field in which the deep believers have no interest ...

A prince once upon a time said to the great Sheikh Ibn Taymiyyah : “We have heard that you are seeking sovereignty over our kingdom!”

With dignity, Ibn Taymiyyah raised his head and said: “All of your kingdom is not as precious as two cents!”

A man who directs his face to Allah all night-- how can be humiliated by a piece of jewelry in the morning?

- **A fact**

The moment when you cling to Him for the sake of answering to your needs, is the same moment when what you need appears in your right hand!

There is no way for any desire to be achieved except by way of Allah. There is no existence of any provision except in the hand of Allah. There is no possibility of anything happening except by the will of Allah. He is the Only, and there is no might nor power except through Him.

A cell does not have the right to move, nor an atom to be formed, nor a drop to evaporate, nor a leaf to fall, except by way of His might and power!

All the world would not be able to harm you, if Allah did not will it to be so, and all the world would not be able to dispel an evil from you, if Allah willed it for you!

Consequently, direct your face to Him, lean your back on Him, and trust all of your matters to Him....

He is As-Samad: The Only, Self-Sufficient Master, who neither begets nor is begotten, nor is there to Him any equivalent.

O our Lord, tie our hearts to You, and make us not in any need to ask or question except You. Make us seek Your refuge only, not of any one of Your creatures...

Al-Hafiz (The Ever-Preserving)

We remember the benefit of antiskid...

the benefit of speed brakes...

the benefit of protective airbags...

the benefit of seatbelts...

But we forget Allah!

Al-Hafiz (The Ever-Preserving)

If you feel that your life is in danger, or that disease threatens your precious health, or your son is away from you and you're afraid for him from losing his way or being with bad company, or that the money you've collected is on the brink of loss and wastefulness, be sure that you are in a bad need to learn about this name of Allah—Al-Hafiz. You are also in need of renewing your belief with this great name, and the proper time has come to think deeply and meditate on it.

He is the only One to preserve your life, your health, your sons, your money, and everything in this life!

▪ O heart, Feel at ease...

Sheikh Al-Saadi, may Allah have mercy on him, says: “The Ever-Preserving means that He has preserved what He has created, and His knowledge has encompassed what He brought into existence, and He preserves with care His believing servants from committing sins and falling into jeopardy, and He has mercy on them throughout the ups and downs.”

The ultimate protection, care, and security shall be for you when you come underneath His wing and His preservation.

He protects His slaves; this is why we always say: “O Lord, protect me from between my hands, from my back, from my right side, from my left side, and from above me, and I seek refuge in You to not be conquered from beneath me.”

If you entrust all of your six directions to Allah, and you plea with Him to surround you with a protective circle around all of your sides, then you will see that no one can give you that except Him!

He preserves your hearing and your sight. Therefore, we call Him in the morning and the evening, supplicating: “O Lord, grant me protection in my hearing. O Lord, grant me protection in my sight...”

Certainly you would lose the senses that enable you to comprehend this world if you were to lose the blessings of hearing and sight. You would live in dark isolation. Life would suffocate you with its deaf silence!

{Say, “Have you considered: if Allah should take away your hearing and your sight and set a seal upon your hearts, which deity other than Allah could bring them [back] to you?”}

The Ever-Preserving is the One who preserves your hearing, by which you hear the forbidden things, and if He wished, He would take it away in a glance.

The Ever-Preserving is the One who preserves your sight, by which you see the forbidden things, and if He wished, He would take it away in a glance.

He preserves your religion. This is why you supplicate in your prostration to Him: (O Turner of Hearts, make my heart steadfast in Your religion).

▪ Roads of deviation!

If He did not make your heart steadfast on His religion, suspicions would tear you apart and your fantasies would take you captive!

Shockingly, there have been scholars who had spent their lives between books and ink, but Allah had not destined for their beliefs to be steadfast, so they disbelieved in the Exalted in the heavens, and some of them became innovators in the religion. And how small your knowledge is, yet you prostrate to Him? The Ever-Preserving will maintain your religion!

A scholar named “Abdullah Al-Kosayme” wrote a book called “The Conflict Between Islam and Idolatry” to defend Allah’s religion. It was said about this book, exaggeratedly, that the author paid the dowry of Paradise by it! He was also praised from the minbar of the Kaaba. Years later, the roads of deviation hit his heart—God forbid—and suspicions weaved around the core of his thoughts nets of skepticism! Consequently, the fundamental bases became assumptions, and the facts became opinions. Beneath all of these suspicions and ordeals and from the mountains of deviation, the writer took his pen and wrote a book called “These are the Cuffs,” its content attacking Islam! He wrote: “The religion of Islam is cuffs,

restrictions, and burdens!” We seek the refuge of Allah to not be humiliated like this!

The Ever-Preserving is the One who preserves your religion; it is not the knowledge in your head that preserves you! Don't allow your head to become inflated because of your knowledge or because of your memorization of the Holy Qur'an or the Sunnah of the Prophet, peace be upon him. I swear by Allah that you will be astray if He does not preserve your religion!!

Mention for example "Balaam Bin Baorah." Allah granted him understanding of His greatest name so that he could call on him at any time and He would answer his prayer. This name, however, did not preserve him from going astray and being among those who will be sent to Hell.

▪ **And we forget Allah!**

He preserves your life. Therefore, we trust Him to keep our beloved people safe when we leave them, and we say: "I bid you farewell, trusting in Allah to protect you!" It is impossible for the deposits protected and watched by Allah to be lost.

Behind every accident which a person survives, there is a protector who rescued him from it. We remember the benefit of the antiskid, the benefit of speed brakes, the benefit of protective airbags, the benefit of seatbelts, but we forget Allah!

If the waves hit the ship aggressively, and the hearts reached the throats, who is going to protect the ship from being swallowed into the depths of the ocean?

I have seen a video of a ship which was driven up and down by the rough waves. The spectacle of the passengers being pushed from one far corner to the other far corner was impressive. They did not have any power to rescue themselves. Even thinking became more difficult. The only thing that was possible for them was attempting to grab anything. And when the cameras zoomed out, I saw the ship like a tiny straw in the middle of mountain-like waves!

When the pilot of an airplane declares a flaw in the plane, those who were indulgent in deep thinking far away from Allah become so pious in a quick shift. All of the passengers seek the refuge of Allah and seek His forgiveness. They forget their wishes, dreams, pain, and ordeals except for death! It becomes the only matter in their minds!!

Who is the one by whom the airplane was fixed so it could land peacefully and those whose souls were about to meet death were able to escape?

I think back to an airplane I was aboard, when it faced severe bumps midflight. I realized in this moment how small the airplane was, how it was flying in the air above a vast desert. I felt more than terrified. How unaware I was during every flight I had taken of the frightening picture of this small object that moves in the air by Allah's power!

He, Allah, is the one we call to rescue our ship

But when we arrive safely we abandon His worship

We ride the airplane with security and peace

We did not fall as we are in the hand of the Ever-Preserving

▪ **Successive Angels**

The Almighty says: ﴿ For him [i.e., each one] are successive [angels] before and behind who protect him by the decree of Allah.﴾

For your sake, The Ever-Preserving orders four angels to surround you so you are protected by his decree from what he did not prescribe for you.

How could He not be The Ever-Preserving and he entrusted this number of angels to block any shot not prescribed by Allah to injure you and any rock that the Almighty did not prescribe to end your life, and any mosquito that Allah did not wish to hurt your skin!

I watched, in a state of shock, the video of the assassination of Sheikh A'aidh Al Karani in the Philippines. The assassin shot the Sheikh with six shots from only one meter away, and there was no wall between the shots and the Sheikh. The assassin looked like a professional, and there was no resistance from the Sheikh or his companions... And the Sheikh survived all of these sinful attempts at his murder without any single injury!! On the other hand, I

remember the far destined shot that killed the American President John Kennedy, while he was wandering by his car with his soldiers and guards!

Afterwards, the Sheikh announced that the miracle of his survival had happened because he was mentioning Allah and protecting himself by the prayers!

This incident is a lesson, or it is like a whole volume of a book about the name of the Ever-Preserving, “Al-Hafiz!”

▪ **Between the brackets...**

Did you know that you are under His protection every moment?

Indeed, in every moment you are preserved a hundred times!!

How?

- At this moment, while you are reading this paragraph, He is preserving your heartbeat from ceasing, your arteries from closing, your brain from going insane, your kidneys from failing, your stomach from becoming punctured, your intestines from becoming inflamed, your organs from becoming paralyzed, your eyes from becoming blind, your hearing from being lost, your tongue from being mute... All this and much more He is preserving at this very second.

So think about how many times we should be saying “Praise be to Allah” in just one second.

▪ **Water bottle...**

If you park your car in a dark place and you are afraid for it to be stolen, keep it in the hand of the Ever-Preserving. Certainly He, the Exalted in heavens, is the caretaker of what you deposit.

If you are about to leave your home and you are afraid for your children, then say: “I bid you farewell, trusting in Allah to protect you.” You will return, God willing, to find them in the best shape, because he is Al-Hafiz!

If the living conditions force you to leave a precious item in a public or unsafe place, seek Him with your heart, and say, “O Lord, preserve it for me,” and be confident that the eye of Allah is watching it for you till you return.

Four friends fly to a place sixty kilometers from Tabuk called “Naema Reet.” At 9 A.M. they landed and continued walking on foot to a place that is called “Al-Shaq.” Al-Shaq is a huge crack in the Earth’s crust; landing on it is considered not only an adventure but a great risk to one’s life!

Their thirst for adventure urged them to descend and to reach the bottom in about thirty minutes. They stayed trying to ascend to the roof until sunset! They climbed the rocks, then the slippery gravel pulled them down. The layers of rock were crushed beneath their feet, and they were crossing through really tight places that were not wide enough for any part of the body to pass through except their toes.

They were tired, and their feet were chapped. They were extremely exhausted, and they were dying from thirst. In brief, they were about to be recorded among the dead!!

Their hearts were clinging to Allah. They were certain that there is no protector except Allah. One of them, according to the others, said that he insistently supplicated Allah when the thirst was so tough to the point that he wished he was dead. Surprisingly, in a place where the feet of human beings cannot step, he sees a bottle of water that was clean and in good shape. He did not become happy so much from finding the water in comparison to his friends, but instead he felt happy from feeling that Allah was with him in every single moment. He knew that Allah was the One who put that water bottle into existence in that moment so that He could rescue them from this fatal risk.

The water bottle became no more a symbol of surviving death, but rather a symbol of the preservation of the Ever-Preserving. Glory be to Him...

Before sunset they arrived at the roof with dirty faces, torn clothes, and blood dripping from their feet, but their belief and trust in Allah were like the mountains in the desert that were surrounding them!

Eyes were kept awake, whereas others were not
In matters may be or maybe not
Your Lord has supplied for your yesterday's provision
So, for tomorrow, you will be have your possessions

▪ **Greater, more, and bigger**

Al-Hafiz's name consists a story with every one of His creatures. He doesn't design His creation and then leave them, but instead He provides them with the weapons by which they can face the dangers of life. He gives each creature his own sword so that he can navigate the war of life.

He preserves some animals by their capacity to run rapidly such as deer and rabbits...

He also preserves other animals by horns by which they can open a hole in the belly of an enemy that attacks them, such as hippopotamuses and buffaloes...

He also keeps some animals protected with the size of their body, so they can attack their enemy using their huge bodies, such as elephants and bears...

Some animals are kept protected by the electrical weapon by which they can defend themselves if it is touched by any enemy, such as crampfish!

Furthermore, some living things are preserved by their ability to produce venom, such as snakes and scorpions!

He preserves the chameleon by making it able to change its color if needed in a time of danger!

He also protects some animals by flying, some by hiding, and some by climbing...

What we have discussed is just a slight mention of His preservation, and what humanity is unaware of is His Ever-Preserving power is greater, more, and bigger!

▪ **He defends you ...**

Defending believers is from the preserving ways of Allah: (Indeed, Allah defends those who have believed. Indeed, Allah does not like everyone treacherous and ungrateful.)

Meditate on this: He is not supporting them against evil one time only, but He continuously supports them with power against evil! In this verse, there is an indication of how aggressively the believers will face multiple types of evil in its various forms, but Allah is aware of the intention of their enemies so He beats them and prevents them from making any gains upon his beloved ones.

In a Hadith Qudsi (divine hadith), the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, “Verily Allah Ta’ala has said: ‘Whosoever shows enmity to a wali (friend/ally/supporter) of Mine, then I have declared war against him.’” Imagine the war between an enemy to the call of belief, truth, and the correct religion and Allah!

(1) Issued by Al-Bukhari in his book (105/8-6502)

Who is the triumphant? Who is the defeated? Or who is the humiliated?

He is for the believers All-Preserving. He takes special care of them. With Him, there is love, care, and mercy.

When the disbelievers of Quraish surrounded the cave in which there was two men—Muhammad, peace be upon him, and the Honest One Abu Bakr as-Siddiq—and the financial temptation was pushing them to murder the two patient men, in their hearts laid a hidden grudge and a hidden desire to gain fame by beating the most important character of that era...

At that time, fear snuck into the heart of Abu Bakr, and his great companion, peace be upon him, looked at him with piety and said, “What do you think of two with whom Allah is the third?”

O Abu Bakr, do you think we are a mere two? Nay, we are three!

At that time, the fears faded, the tensions were released, the obsessions melted.

If Allah's care surrounds you with its protective eye, don't worry,

And sleep, as all your fears turn into safety!

Consider the believers of the cave who sought His refuge and asked Him for guidance. He guided them to a cave without a door, a cave accessible to human beings, living things, and beasts, but He chose to preserve them by one of His soldiers—terror. No one approached the cave except that terror overtook his heart so that he could no longer approach the cave and instead tried to escape quickly in fear: ﴿If you had looked at them, you would have turned from them in flight and been filled by them with terror.﴾

If you and I desire to throw something, we might throw a pen, a book, or a rock, but if Allah opts to throw something, He throws things that are more important, unexpected, and great.

Glory to be to Allah who says: ﴿I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieved.﴾

For His servants and true believers, He casts terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve so that they disperse into groups, fearing the believers who are supported by Allah!

▪ The valley of the beasts

He, the Exalted, protects you by the angels. Therefore, one who reads Ayat Al-Kursi before he sleeps, Allah employs for him an angel who preserves him from what Allah did not prescribe for him.

What is there to fear if Allah is on your side?

This name, Al-Hafiz, makes you want to breathe comfortably with confidence in the Ever-Living who does not die. Wander in the darkness, pass the valley of the beasts, take a risk in the crocodiles' swamp, but Al-Hafiz (The Ever-Preserving) surrounds you with a beam of protection which turns all of these things into a mere trivial children's game.

Taking all available precautions is not against the abovementioned idea. We are ordered to do this, and our Prophet, peace be upon him, took precautions throughout his perilous journeys, his journeys for spreading Islam, and throughout all of his life in general. In the end, being cautious is important, but Allah is the Omniscient, the Almighty, the Ever-Preserving...

Whoever reads the story of Al-Sheikh Abd Al-Rahman As-Sameet, may Allah have mercy on him, on his journey to Africa to spread the religion and how he passed by swamps and valleys of beasts in the darkness of the black continent, how he suffered from thirst, hunger, and sickness, and after all of that he was not inflicted with any harm, but instead he stayed twenty five years this way, which he had chosen for himself, and then he died in Kuwait on his bed! Whoever reads this man's story, he will certainly understand the meaning of the name "the Ever-Preserving."

There is another commonly mentioned story on the same topic that is without authentication, but it is not strange to the pious slaves of Allah. Sa'eed Ibn Jubair was captured by two soldiers sent by Al-Hajaj, and on their way, the rain began to fall heavily, so they were forced to seek refuge in the cottage of a monk. Sa'eed Ibn Jubair completely refused to enter as a way to show Allah that he refused to enter the places of worship of those who are astray. Therefore, they left him downstairs and went upstairs. While his companions were upstairs, a lion approached Sa'eed, and they were shouting from above for him to watch out and try to escape. Sa'eed was drifting away to a warm world of mentioning Allah, so although he was present in body, his soul was tied to Allah, and the lion lost interest in him. The lion approached so close and looked as if it was whispering to him and then left. The two soldiers were shocked and stared ahead in fear while the monk was looking at it from a different perspective. The monk stared at him and said, "This is, certainly, a pious worshiper of Allah!"

Take all of your worldly interests and leave my heart free, unrestrained, and strange

Certainly, I am of the richest fortune even if you left me lonely and ripped off with no potentials

The One who inspired the lion to stop at the last moment—He is, undoubtedly, the Ever-Preserving!

▪ **I am the Poor**

I have seen a video on YouTube in which there was a person walking above the rail bars of a train. The problem lies in the fact that a train was running with all of its power facing this man. The person thought that he would reach the other side with plenty of time to spare. This, unfortunately, was only his thought.

In a turn of events, the man's foot got stuck in the rail bars. He tried his best to release it, but it was completely stuck and the train was approaching with great speed. Its sound was filling the place with deadly terror. The man kept attempting to get free, his face and veins showing his horror. He was about to meet his end, and death was about to truly come to him! When the distance between him and the train became very small, Allah gave the permission to the rail bars of the train to release his foot and he was able to jump to the opposite side in a blink. Just a fraction of a minute would have been enough to end his life tragically!

Be sure of your weakness. Be sure of the flaws in your arguments. Be sure of your poverty. Then tie your heart tightly to Allah, and repeat:

I am the one in need of the God of all creation

I am the one who is certainly poor in all of his situations

Mention the Messenger Lut, peace be upon him, when his people attacked his house, desiring to remove the door of the house in order to kidnap his guests, the angels. What an eternal shame this is when the treacherous of your people kidnap your guests. Therefore, he sighed in a weak and sad tone: {He said: "Would that I had power to suppress you or that I could betake myself to some powerful support."}

Allah's Messenger, peace be upon him, said, "May Allah bestow His mercy on Lut. He wanted to have a powerful support. If I were to stay in prison (for a period equal to) the stay of Joseph and then the offer of freedom came to me, then I would have accepted it." (1)

Tie your hand to Allah's rope of belief attempting to seek His refuge
And be sure it shall be the refuge when the other supporters flee

▪ **Oh lad...**

He can preserve you even through your enemies! How can this be?

It is mentioned in folktales that there was a thief who snuck into a house and stole money from some of the chambers where there was a child and his parents. The thief entered the chamber, picked up the child, and moved him to another room. The child, however, woke up and screamed. The parents woke up in a panic and wondered what had urged their child to go out of the room during the night. So, they got up and attempted to search for him in the house. The thief took this chance and entered the room of the parents to steal from it, but suddenly the ceiling fell apart on his head and buried all of his body in the layers of the chamber!

Who inspired this thief to sneak into this house to rescue this family from being among the dead and being buried underneath the rubbish. His slyness worked against him! Allah is the Ever-Preserving who rescues His worshippers. He preserves them even through their enemies!

One of the best ways to obtain the protections of the Ever-Preserving, who is Exalted in the heavens, is to be mindful of Allah and to observe His impact in every situation in your life!

Repeat and meditate on this hadith from the Prophet, peace be upon him. Ibn 'Abbas, with whom Allah is pleased, narrated, "One day I was riding behind the Prophet when he said, 'O lad, be mindful of Allah, and you will find Him in front of you. Recognize and acknowledge Allah in times of ease and prosperity, and He will remember you in times of adversity.'"

Be mindful of Allah, Allah keeps an eye protecting you

Be mindful of His orders and do what He has commanded

Be mindful of His bans and stop completely what He has banned for you

▪ Suffocation

That is the gist of this section. After raising above your fears and worries, Allah is going to rescue you from them, like what He did with bin Matta (Jonah).

There is no fear, worry, or affliction harder than the ones of Dhun-Nun (Prophet Yunus), peace be upon him, who was in three stages of darkness: First, the darkness of the sea. Second, the darkness of the night. Third, the darkness of the belly of the whale. What a life full of desperation that you would live in the belly of a whale all your life...

Darkness, constriction, and suffocation...

Then he faced all of this strife by supplicating Allah in one statement: “There is none worthy of worship except You. Glory to You. Indeed, I have been of the transgressors.” (Lā ilāha illā anta subḥānaka innī kuntu minaz-ẓālimīn.)

These letters, that may seem weak, rise and penetrate the darkness of the whale, the darkness of the sea, and the darkness of the night, and they rise to the heaven. It is narrated that the angels heard it and said, “O Allah, a known voice from an unknown place!”

Relief comes, preservation happens, forgiveness pours out upon him, and the whale leaves him on the beach. Then Allah, the Ever-Preserving, plants for him a pumpkin tree.

All of us in this life resemble Dhun-Nun. All of this life gathers to make us suffer through strife, and nothing will take us to the safety of the shore except, “There is none worthy of worship except You. Glory to you. Indeed, I have been of the transgressors.” (Lā ilāha illā anta subḥānaka innī kuntu minaz-ẓālimīn.)

O Lord, preserve us with your Ever-Preserving power, surround us with your care, and protect us between us, behind us, to our left, to our right, from above us, and from below us from that which You will rescue us of what worries us and what causes us to take precautions.

Al-Lateef
(The All-Subtle, The Most Gentle, The All-Kind)

If Al-Lateef destined for you to be kept away from harm, He would place you far away from any danger, or He would make the danger incapable of reaching you, or He would make you face the danger without being harmed at all!

Al-Lateef

Do you have a faraway hope blocked with difficult obstacles?

Did the doctors tell you that there is no hope for the recovery of your relative?

Do you feel hopeless because what you are able to do shall not result with what you wish to achieve?

Here is the secret. Let us read to learn about the name of Allah, Al-Lateef. If you contemplate on its meaning, you will discover that there is nothing impossible in this life and that Allah has power over everything, and your dreams shall become true if you knock on the door of Al-Lateef.

▪ Gentle in His subtle details

In the Arabic language, Al-Lateef means: {The Beneficent and The Merciful towards His slaves, the Gentle to His creation by delivering benefits in unfathomable and gentle hidden ways}. When you say “latf” Allah for you, it means that He fulfilled your wish in a gentle and hidden way.

“Al-lutf” in the Arabic language means the gentle way of hiding His actions and the easy accuracy of dealing with all matters...

Verily, no one is capable of gently delivering you by His grace except the One who is aware of the hidden details of all matters and the subtle inclinations of the souls...

Certainly, Allah, the Exalted in the heavens, is Gentle with favor to His worshippers without their realization, and He also disposes their affairs without their knowing.

Thus, He is Gentle with accuracy and invisibility in His favors and generosity, in His Guidance and preservation, and in His fore planning and destiny.

With all of His capacity, great knowledge, and deep knowing of His creations, He is Gentle with what He encompasses of His servant of guidance, generosity, and favor. His blessings will not surprise you but shall be preceded by a wind of good news. He will also prepare your heart to receive it. Before the blessings reach you, He will precede them with means which will make them easily received without

shock, as they would be if done by the servant. In reality, however, the blessings are a great generosity from the Giver of all kinds of blessings and happiness.

With His gentle power, the greatest of wishes come true even if they were to be thought up in the imagination of the best creative minds. He makes these wishes a reality. Every rope from Allah, the planner of our lives, holds a gentle destiny from His mercy. Thus, you do not realize His plan until you see a miracle in your life! You feel that it was beyond your limits and you believe that your power and strength was not enough to fulfill this wish. Hence, you cast a look to the sky and say: { (42:19) **Allah is Subtle with His servants; He gives provisions to whom He wills. And He is the Powerful, the Exalted in Might.**}

▪ Breezes of kindness

If Al-Lateef opted for strengthening you, He would order that which is not rendered as a sufficient reason in ordinary circumstances to be the great reason for fulfilling your needs!

If Al-Lateef desired to fill you with blessings, He would soften the heart of the stubborn, and then the stubborn one would be the reason for the blessings reaching you!

If Al-Lateef destined for you to be kept away from harm, He would place you far away from any danger, or He would make the danger incapable of reaching you, or He would make you face the danger without being harmed at all!

If Al-Lateef wanted to prevent your soul from being a slave to a sin, He would pour in your heart hatred for it, or He would make it unreachable for you, or He would make your heart without interest in it, or He would leave you to approach it then place an obstacle in your way to stop you from committing it!

Allah's worshippers notice this gentle mercy from Al-Lateef. They recognize it with their deep eyesight as if every destiny enriches them with gentle mercy that goes to them only.

When Al-Lateef gave permission to the Prophet Joseph, peace be upon him, to be released from prison, He did not smash the walls of the prison. He did not order an angel to rip the hearts of the unjust dictators out of their chests. He also did not allow a thunderbolt from the sky to shatter the steel lock to pieces. He merely inspired the king of Egypt to see a vision in which there was a hidden escape for Prophet Joseph (“the Honest”) from the cuffs of injustice!

When Allah willed for Moses to be delivered back to his mother, He did not trigger a war led by the revolutionists of the sons of Israel against the tyranny of the Pharaoh to release the innocent ones so they would have their normal lives again. Nay, but He made the mouth of Moses unable to suck the milk of the wet nurses! With this hidden order from Allah, Moses returned to his mother after her heart had become empty from everything except the sorrow of losing him!

Mention also when Al-Lateef willed to release our Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and his companions from the sufferings of the siege of Bani Hashim, He did not send upon them a blast from the sky ending the injustice of the Quraish. He just sent a termite which ate all the corners of the unjust treaty and the sentences of the wretched alliance! Thus, when they searched for the treaty, they found it was eaten by a termite. Because of the injustice that they committed, their treaty was destroyed by a small creature!

My hand is only raised up for You

You are the only One who pours out the fine dew

Your door with grace for me opens

Thus, it is opened for the one with a purpose

And verily your eternal refuge still supports

So do not reject the one who seeks refuge in your words

And O Allah, Your soft and gentle kindness

If all evils attacked me, You are my brightness

He is Al-Lateef, may He be glorified and exalted. With the easiest and smallest matters that you could imagine, He destines the greatest of destinies. Everything

happens under His will, whereas His slave is unaware that something is happening under his own nose!

▪ **The Rock**

When you are sleeping, He likes to wake you up to pray in His presence. Therefore, He sends a gentle fine wind to shake your window, or a child in your family to pass by and make noise beside the room where you sleep, or a dire need to drink some water, so you wake up and look at your watch and after a few minutes you stand before Him on the prayer rug asking Him of His favor and forgiveness without even realizing that He is the One who wake you up!

While driving your car in the summits of mountains, suddenly you feel that it is necessary to pull your car aside to check for something in the glove compartment, and in seconds you are shocked by a huge stone falling from the top of the mountain. If you did not stop, you and your car were both about to be smashed like downtrodden stones! Thereafter you continue your journey in safety and security without acknowledging that He is the One who saved you!

You plan to commit a sin, so you go out at night to do it. The details of your plan are fascinating and well thought out. Then suddenly a car speeds up behind you, so you think something is chasing you. This car fills your heart with tension at the idea of even thinking about the sin that you were planning to commit. So, your intention to commit the sin becomes weak, and you return to your home without realizing that He is the One who averted you from committing this sin through His gentle kindness!

For Allah, one is speechless to count His gentle grants

Whose details are hard to be understood by the intelligent

How many times you were disappointed by a morning matter

And at night the good news for you comes

If the matters of life get hard one day

Trust the only Eternal Refuge to whom you pray

▪ The concealed and hidden matters

There is no doubt that Al-Lateef is the Omniscient. How on earth could He bless you with all these blessings and guide you to His straight path with gentleness without being aware of the sources and knowledge of this gentleness?

Verily, He is our Creator. In some cases, achieving the highest level of gentleness requires taking something that does not already exist and making it a reality. When you meditate on Allah's names, you shall find that each name is connected with the others, and no one name would exist without the others. Look at what Allah said: **{(67:14) Is it conceivable that One who creates should not know? He is the All-Subtle (penetrating to the most minute dimensions of all things), the All-Aware.}**

How could He not be aware while His knowledge reaches the degree that He hides his gifts so they become perfect in their happening, impressive in their impact. How could this God who gives with gentle and hidden generosity, who guides His servants in a subtle way, who disposes the evil for our benefit in a compassionate way—is He who created all that is in existence not acquainted with all this mercy that He (SWT) pours out?

Sheikh As-Saadi says: “He is Al-Lateef whose knowledge encompasses all secrets and hidden matters, the One who is aware of the secrets and hidden aspects of everything.”

Let us consider one of the greatest and most fascinating visions seen by the Prophet Joseph, peace be upon him, at the time when all the natural indicators were showing that it was impossible to be achieved! He tells of his vision and says: **{“O my father! I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me!”}** The explanation of this vision was that his mother and father will prostrate to him as a way to show respect and honor!

All the surrounding factors of his situation at that time were pointing to the failure of achieving such a vision!

His father was a noble Prophet, old in his age, respected in his status. Note that it was not accepted in the customs of the time to see the old prostrating to the young,

and the two prophets are not equal to each other—Joseph is the son, whereas Jacob is the father!

Joseph's brothers were his foes. Therefore, how would they prostrate to him, considering their cunning nature reached the highest level of evil to the degree that they decided to murder him and throw him down deep into a dark well. All these indicators prove the impossibility of his brothers prostrating to Joseph, peace be upon him, one day!

Then the situation changed, as it always does. So after being thrown into the dark well, he became like goods which are bought and sold—he became a slave in the palace of the high minister of Egypt! His status as a slave once again indicated the impossibility of his vision coming true!

Afterwards, he moved from the status of being a servant slave in the palace of the high minister to an imprisoned slave in the prison of the kingdom! Thus the distance had become so far between him and the achievement of that vision which he dreamt when he was a little boy!

But Al-Lateef, may He be glorified and exalted, had prescribed the destiny and disposed the affairs. He, may He be glorified and exalted, released him out of prison, appointed him in a reputable position, then He afflicted the countries with severe drought. Hence his brothers came to him asking for his favor. Still the destiny of Al-Lateef came at the end of the story in the shape of the old vision. Joseph, peace be upon him, was shocked and astonished from the prostration of his parents and brothers and said: **﴿"O my father! This is the fulfillment of my vision of old! Allah hath made it come true! He was indeed good to me when He took me out of prison and brought you (all here) out of the desert, (even) after Satan had sown enmity between me and my brothers. Verily my Lord understandeth best the mysteries of all that He planneth to do, for verily He is full of knowledge and wisdom."﴾**

Verily, without the Lord's plan for his vision to come to be, it would not have come true.

{“He was indeed good to me when He took me out of prison and brought you (all here) out of the desert, (even) after Satan had sown enmity between me and my brothers.”}

This is the gist of Allah’s gentleness which surrounded the whole spectacle of Joseph’s story. Then Joseph, peace be upon him, finally spoke about the vision, saying: {“Verily my Lord understandeth best the mysteries of all that He planneth to do.” } Certainly, He is Al-Lateef. If He wills something, He plans its means with His gentleness and complete conceal, to the degree that the impossible becomes possible! Because He is Allah, the All-Subtle, the All-Aware.

▪ The distant dreams

If you saw the earth pale and dusty, the sky above it cloudy, the thunder strikes starting and the rain beginning to fall, then the earth flourishing and green, do not say it is a natural phenomenon. Meditate on this verse: {Seest thou not that Allah sends down rain from the sky, and forthwith the earth becomes clothed with green? For Allah is He Who understands the finest mysteries, and is well-acquainted (with them).}

In spite of the distance from your dreams becoming fulfilled, even if between you and your dreams is a vast desert, Al-Lateef is capable to achieve it: **{“O my son!” (said Luqman), “If there be (but) the weight of a mustard-seed and it were (hidden) in a rock, or (anywhere) in the heavens or on earth, Allah will bring it forth: for Allah understands the finest mysteries, (and) is well-acquainted (with them).”}** So do not despair, and know that Al-Lateef is with you planning all of your affairs.

Contemplate the seed of mustard! You barely see it even when you are staring at it. Compare its size to your palm, then to the size of your room for example, then to a whole house, then compare it to your district, then to your city, then to your country, then to your whole continent, then to the earth, then to the vast skies. In the end you are going to trust that if Allah wills to grant you your wish, He will get it to you. {He understands the finest mysteries and He is well-acquainted.}

Verily, He is the One who achieves with His perfect order the task of bringing forth a mustard seed from within the mazes of this vast great universe. Is it difficult for Him to give you what is meant for you, even if all the above mentioned keeps you away from Him and makes you unaware of His power? No, I swear by Allah it is not so.

Let us look at my dear friend as an example. My friend recently reached Jordan after a long journey. He had obligatory lectures in the very early hours of the morning at the University of Mu'tah, at the border, and he had to travel a total of one hundred kilometers to reach his destination. On his way to the airport, he suddenly remembered that he had left his passport at home! He got frustrated and decided to return back to his home and not to travel that week.

The next morning, he read in the headlines of the newspapers that a mixture of colleagues from various eccentric nationalities had taken part in riots at Mu'tah University which resulted in a large number of casualties!

Al-Lateef made him forget his passport so that he was saved from seeing the blood or so that he did not have to wake up in the hospital being among the casualties! Or it could have even been so that he does not fear going to the university and therefore quit his studies which he had been working on for a long time!

Observe the fine and gentle plan of Al-Lateef. It undoubtedly occurs in sequence, and within each sequence there is mercy from Allah, and during each second of the day, detailed matters happen to you from the plan of Al-Lateef, the All-Aware.

▪ Allah's mercy in the crucial moments

Consider yourself when you enter the room at the exact moment that your child was about to fall off the bed and possibly hurt himself, and ask yourself: Why did I enter the room at this exact moment?

Contemplate thoroughly, for instance, the day when you entered the kitchen to drink some water in the middle of the night and suddenly you heard a buzzing noise coming from the electrical outlet that the refrigerator was plugged into, so quickly you ran to unplug it before the smoke exploded into a destructive fire, and question yourself: Who inspired you to enter the kitchen at that precise time? Why did He not make you wait just a few minutes longer when the fire would have been burning in full fledge?

Even if the above incidents are not a part of your own personal life story, it is certain that something similar to these memories has happened to you. Merely unleash your memories to remember, and you will recall the shadows of Allah's gentleness and hidden mercy when it changed your whole life...

After all of this deep explanation of this great name of Allah, we still have not reached even the shore of its meaning. There is still much more to learn about it. I pass to you this name to contemplate it and attempt to understand it, to consult dictionaries and the volumes of scholars to quench your dire thirst for knowledge of His names.

Consequently, is not the name of Al-Lateef worthy of our love, after knowing even a little about Him? Is it not worthy of our contemplation of His finest and most gentle blessings and mercy? Is it not worthy of an increase of faith in our hearts from mentioning Him and expecting His mercy and fearing Him?

Is it not worthy to live your days with this name, calling upon Him and supplicating to Him, analyzing and awaiting His gentle mercy, feeling your eyes shed tears from the realization of His gifts out of His mercy towards you?

Say in humility:

O Lord of fine and gentle mercy, rescue us from what we fear and worry over...

O Lord, Al-Lateef, be gentle and caring with regards to our affairs, ascribe in Your destiny, from Your mercy, what will clear us of the deviation in our souls, and guide our strayed hearts, and fix the mess of our miserable lives.

Ash-Shafi
(The Healer)

He heals you with a means...

He heals you with the weakest one...

And also with the strangest one...

And He heals you with what is recognized as non-means...

And He heals you without a means!

Ash-Shafi

Has the pain you have felt shattered your pure soul? Has it exhausted your heart and your soul? Has illness made you feel that this life is gray and yellow?

Do you disdain going to the doctor? And have you become exhausted from walking in the hallways of the hospitals? And have the names of the clinics become mixed up in your mind with the date of your next checkup and the faces of the doctors?

What about showing you something with the ability to cleanse your soul from what is afflicting it and causing it troubles?

It is, verily, the name of Allah, “Ash-Shafi” ...

Leave some space for your exhausted soul to take a short rest, to read about this name which is full of mercy, this name which you will learn that without it you are in a dire need, and without it you would be too far away from your Lord...

▪ No illness after today

Ash-Shafi is one of the remarkable names of the Exalted in the heavens—Allah—and we must praise Him, because He named Himself this name and is worthy to be characterized by the quality of healing, and He is the only One who heals and recovers the bodies of his worshippers. It is also a name with a clear meaning, and just by its appearance a deep meaning can be reflected upon.

Ash-Shefaa (healing) is always related to the sickness...

Sickness is a recurring matter in the lives of human beings, diverse in pains, multiple in shapes, existing in every soul. Therefore, if one recovers from a certain eye problem, then he gets a headache, then when the headache ceases, joint stiffness starts to affect him. Then if these joint aches stop, a fever attacks, and if the fever is alleviated, the level of colitis reaches a high degree and is painful for him. Afterwards, if that pain goes away, the pain of a tooth nerve attacks him... And so on, so that no day passes without pain!

Finally, when he gets better, he finds his brother suffering, or his mother crying, or his son moaning, or his beloved in pain...

Life is a field of diseases, pains, and sighs. Therefore, Allah has named himself Ash-Shafi, so that your pain must surrender to the Throne of His mercy, and your suffering must kneel its head at the threshold of His great ability...

Sickness is an affliction on the haughty sects of human beings! A sudden fading in which the human being loses his vitality! A relapse in the vitality of this impatient, fretful, and ungrateful one when good reaches him...

Allah has prescribed for this body to lose its health temporarily, so that the human being can realize his weakness and the fact that he is without any power or support...

Allah has prescribed for every human being some disease so that he can remember death. For a fact, disease is the end of vitality, and death is similar in the matter of ending one's life.

O human being, your truthful core is death. Everything of you is from decay. Your temporary sleep is a kind of death. Your growing stage is death to the previous stage. Your youth stage is considered the end of childhood. Adulthood and getting old is the death of the youth stage. You are closer to death than life. Nevertheless, illusion makes us think that we are immortal. This is why death screams through pain in our organs, saying that we are going to vanish!

While the exhausted body of a man lies on his death bed, he stares at those who enter and leave from visiting him and notices how they are carrying on their heads crowns of vitality and health. In that moment, the haunting reminder of going to the grave fills his mind whether he expected that or not!

When you are sick, your soul senses that you are going to meet death. Moreover, your eyes, your lips, and your shaking pinching fingers and toes explain in a stark way the beginning of the inner downfall.

This is the last thread of life inside of you waving with its palms, saying goodbye to those visitors.

When sickness takes its whole toll, and when you are newly born out of any sin in this life, Ash-Shafi, may He be glorified and exalted, removes the disease from your body and orders your health to resume its previous cycle, and gradually you see how your cheeks become flushed with liveliness and your smile returns back after a long time of hardships has made it pale...

▪ **He cures you without a reason!**

Because He is Ash-Shafi, He cures you with a means...

And also with the weakest means...

And sometimes with the strangest one...

And sometimes with what you think it is not enough to cure you...

And sometimes He cures you without a means!

He cures with different forms of His mercy, such as herbs, complex and individual medicines, nutrition, and with water...

Speaking of which, one of the very strangest matters that I have heard of is a child who was afflicted by Tuberculosis and various other diseases. The doctors claimed that he was about to reach his life's end. They allowed his father to take him to the countryside so that he could enjoy his last days in the fresh air there and amongst the sceneries of vast green plains. While he was walking and holding a cold piece of cake in his hand, he met an old wise man who stared directly into his pale eyes and asked him, "Are you searching for life and prosperity, son?"

He nodded yes. The man resumed, saying, "How could you wish for life while you are eating junk food? You have to eat healthy food, such as meat, vegetables, and everything created by Allah in nature where the warmth of the soil is still on it and therein life is flourishing!"

This child said that the advice of this old man entered his heart with respect and awe, and, as a result, he became against every food except the living one, the one which contains in its ingredients the vitality of this flourishing life, such as meat with all of its kinds, vegetables with all of their diversity, fresh newly-baked bread

coming out of the oven, and ripe fruits. Then he said, “My health has improved and my body has gained healthy weight!” This change prompted his father to go to the hospital to get a checkup to see what was going on with him. After a cycle of examinations and analyses, the doctors opened their mouths in great shock, stating that the disease is nowhere to be found in his body! The one who tells this story is the same child who grew up and became one of the most famous American nutritionists who treats patients with herbs and food in his book, *Food Science and Health*. He is Gayelord Hauser.

Yes, the doctors had said that he was about to die, but the Great Lord had not destined that for him!

Yes, the doctors had wanted him to end his life in the countryside, but Allah did not desire that!

Yes, the doctors were incapable of curing him, but Allah was neither incapable to cure him nor will He be. He will never be incapable!

▪ **You don’t know!**

Who has the ability to place the secrets of recovery in vegetables, meats, and plants which are available even to the poorest men in this life?

He is the Only One to cure His creations. He is Ash-Shafi, the Exalted in the heavens.

Maybe you are inflicted by a disease, but from the mercy of Allah, you don’t recognize it. You eat the food in which the vitality and cure exists while you don’t know. You get sick and get better while you really don’t have knowledge of your illness or cure!

Allah also may put the secret of His cure in water. Consider the hadith of our Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, which is well known by the majority of Muslims: It was narrated that Jabir bin ‘Abdullah said: “I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) say: ‘The water of Zamzam is for whatever it is drunk for.’”

And he also said: “It is food for whoever seeks food, and it is also a cure for disease.” How many sick people have suffered from tiresome diseases and Allah guided them to drink from Zamzam water and they recovered from their illnesses!

Moreover, if one looks through the hadiths about treatment, he will find a huge number of prophetic medicines, some of them grouped by Ibn al-Qayyim in his book, “Prophetic Medicine.”

Mentioned here are some of them that are illustrative rather than exhaustive: ud al-hindi with its two kinds—the marine spice and Indian spice, cow’s milk and butter, Senna and Sannut, black seed, talbina (barley with milk and honey), and the act of getting up at night for optional prayer... In every mentioned item, there is a sahih hadith proving it.

And He also treats through patience, prayer, charity, the constant seeking of pardon from Allah, through repentance, satisfaction, and sometimes He cures you with nothing at all!

▪ **The light returns back**

He showed up where we were there in the Library of Religious Affairs in King Abd Al-Aziz Hospital in Tabuk. The horror had drawn on his face a pale, dark cloud. We missed in this moment his shining smile. We questioned him, “What is going on?” He answered in a sad tone that his son was on the top floor. He had had a terrible accident which led to the loss of his sight!

It was hard for us to hear that, so we could not imagine how hard that was on the heart of his father. Could you imagine?

He said in a kind tone, “I want one of you to come with me to perform Ruqya on my son. May Allah cure him...”

My friend got up quickly and went with him. After an hour, he returned and told me that he had made Ruqya for him. Then, he stayed with the father to calm him down and told him about the hadith of the Prophet, peace be upon him, “Cure your sick ones by charity.” The father afterwards took out five hundred Riyals from his

pocket and told him to give it in charity to the homeless with the intention of curing his son.

Two days later, the father entered the same place with a different, more optimistic face and asked my friend to accompany him. After almost a half hour, my friend returned happy, saying, "I have good news for you. The child has begun seeing some of the room's light!" Consequently, he said that the father gave him one thousand Riyals to give all of it in charity, and that day was the end of the week. On Saturday, my friend told me that the father came and accompanied him to his son's room, and I could not believe what he told me when he said that this child recovered totally from his eye problems! He began to see again like the past days. He started to see everything in his life again...

Who treated him? Who wrote for his eyes to return to seeing the light of life? Who returned the ability to his sight?

▪ **Return back to Him...**

He does not want from you except to return to Him, to look for the ways which make you find Him...

Submit to Him with your satisfaction, by your prostration, in your repentance, by asking for his forgiveness, by giving charity. Return to Him by admission of your faults...

Knock on His door, then wait for the recovery...

There is no hospital in this life that has the ability to heal you if Allah did not will that.

There is no doctor in this world able to diagnose your disease except if Allah wills it.

One of the richest men around the world was sick with kidney failure. His sons were travelling with him to Egypt to have a kidney implant...

So the sons made a deal with the family of a young girl to take her kidney for one hundred Riyals. In the morning, everyone was in the hospital. Before the operation, the old man asked to see the girl who wanted to sell her kidney. She entered,

lowing her gaze in shyness. He asked her, “Who forced you to approach a matter like this and attempt to sell your kidney for an old man like me?”

She answered, “The need! My family is so poor. My siblings are studying in the university. I have to do something to help them!”

Her words were like a slap in his face! She woke him up from a long sleep with these words. He momentarily forgot the congestion of spoiled blood in his body. He asked himself, “Is it logical for a human being to sacrifice an essential part of his body for the cause of hunger or the simple need to survive?”

At that moment, he called his sons. When they came to him, he ordered them to take him back to Saudi Arabia because he decided against the idea of getting an implant!

Moreover, he told them that the 100,000 Riyals which was for the implant was to be given in charity to the girl and her family and not to take even one Riyal from it!

Despite the resistance of his sons, and the anger of some of them, they accepted what their dad saw from his point of view. Afterwards, when the father returned to Saudi Arabia, he went to the hospital for a regular kidney dialysis. In the next checkup, the doctors discovered surprisingly that his kidney had returned to functioning!

This is the ability of Allah, the All-Master, who can cure without performing surgeries. He is the King who looks with mercy upon his subjects from atop His Throne. He treats a patient and changes the situation of a miserable one to a happy one. He returns a passenger and recovers an injured one...

▪ **A predetermined appointment**

He makes you sick to make you return to Him and when you return to Him, He takes away the sickness!

He inflicts you with sickness to make you humble, and when you prostrate and show humility before Him, He takes away the sickness as it becomes not so beneficial to you anymore!

He makes you sick to examine your patience and satisfaction, and if you become patient and satisfied, He takes away the sickness as it is not valuable anymore!

Ash-Shafi is the One who, when you are in need of Him, He is there with you without having to make an appointment with Him, without a card to qualify you for treatment, and without needing to come to Him at least fifteen minutes ahead of time, like most doctors. He is Allah!

Just say: O Allah. You will find a divine hospital opening its doors for you. It is the hospital of mercy, ability, gentle preservation, and treatment...

My friend told me a story of an accident that he had. He heard bones crushing under the wheels of his car, so he stopped. He had hit a child. He carried the child to the hospital while his heart was shaking from fear. The father and grandfather of the child gathered around to see my friend unconscious. He could not imagine in his life being guilty of murdering a child!

The sound of the bones breaking was replaying over and over in his ears!

The grandfather of the child went to him and tried to calm him down. He told him that whatever Allah writes in His destiny is what will come to be, and he said they are going to be satisfied from it...

The grandfather led them in the Isha Prayer in the mosque of the hospital, then he read a verse from the Holy Qur'an which says: {But give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere}, and at that moment, my friend cried so much!

After the prayer, the doctors came out of the surgery room and told both the father and the grandfather that there is not much hope for the child's survival, as he is suffering from terrible damage in his skull!

My friend was stunned by the bad news. He returned disappointed to his home. He did not go to work for a whole week, as he was in terrible shock.

There was no medicine for this poor child greater than the belief of his grandfather, the prayers of his mother, and the faith of his father—all this besides their seeking of Allah's mercy...

Less than a week later, I visited the beautiful child myself to find him laughing, playing, standing up, and talking with us! Allah's ability excels above the knowledge of doctors. Allah, the healer of the broken bones, says the truth: {(35:2) Whatever Allah grants to people of mercy – none can withhold it; and whatever He withholds – none can release it thereafter. And He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise}.

Who is capable of healing these shattered bones? And of returning the smile to this child's face? And for putting the life of this soul into the body that was about to lose its vitality?

Allah is the Only One able to do so!

▪ **Underline here**

Ibrahim, peace be upon him, the father of all prophets, met his Lord with a sound heart. Allah cleared any atom of atheism from his heart. He said precious words that would make the heart of any believer seek refuge in Allah alone and to not associate any partners with Him: {(And when I am ill, it is He who cures me.)} He alone can cure me, no one else.

Underline here. You will not need anyone other than Him if He willed to treat you, and no one could do for you good if He did not will!

Prophet Ayyub, peace be upon him, was inflicted by measles. His family and fortune were dispersed and destroyed. The most hopeful one of his time lost hope in his recovery, and he was steadfast! The disease mingled with pain was increasing in his body, while he was humble to his Lord. After years of infliction, he finally supplicated, while in humble prostration, a supplication that was full of belief, saying, {(And (remember) Ayyub, when he cried to his Lord: 'Verily, distress has seized me, and You are the Most Merciful of all those who show mercy.' So We answered his call, and We removed the distress that was on him, and We restored his family to him (that he had lost) and the like thereof along with them as a mercy from Ourselves and a reminder for all those who worship Us." (Al-Anbiya 21:83-84).}

In that moment, the doors of the sky open with mercy...

And from the seven heavens, the heavenly mercy comes down to this inflicted and sad old prophet...

In a moment, the years of pain fade away and the years of vitality come!

Why do you go away from Him seeking the help from someone else?

Why do you seek refuge in someone else?

Why do you trust all these dead bodies who move around you and forget the Ever-Living who does not die?

Who has deceived you and said that the cure can come from a different source?

How has life deluded you all this time? And how has it made you forget who brought you out of your mother's womb without a doctor and created in her body milk from which you grew, and who taught you how to nurse from her through the unawareness of your mind and your lack of cognition. Did you forget who inspired the mercy in your mother so that she could hold you tightly to herself and look after you so well?

Quickly you forgot Him?

Quickly you thought that you could live without Him?

It is He who reminds you with sickness of your first days in this life. With sickness, He sends a message, as if saying, "Return to Me, as I created you from nothing. I am the only One who could overcome your sickness and remove it!"

▪ **Satisfaction**

Maybe the cure you need is nearer to you than what you imagine!

It is Ayyub, peace be upon him, whom Allah ordered: ﴿“Strike the ground with your foot: This is (a spring of) water to wash in, and a cool and (refreshing) drink.”﴾

The medicine to cure him was very near to him; he just needed the will of Allah to come to fruition so that he would be healed. When Allah willed, Ayyub was shown the place of the medicine, so the healing happened by the order of the Exalted in the heavens.

You are not in need of checking the hospitals in Washington, Paris, or Beijing. Your healing is near if Allah wills so. Just take your heart to Allah's city of Belief and Satisfaction.

Your healing is in you but you do not feel

Your sickness is from you but you don't see

If you accept Allah's destiny, Allah becomes satisfied from you...

Sickness is one of the most severe tests of satisfaction, so if your answer on this test is that you are satisfied, the result will be satisfactory, by the permission of Allah.

People might ask: How can I be satisfied with the disease while the pain is naturally disliked? How can I be satisfied with the thing that I dislike?

Ibn al-Qayyim responds to these inquiries, saying, "There is no contradiction in this, as one is satisfied from the side of what he loves and hates it from the side of feeling the pain of it, similar to the disgusting medicine in which he knows there is healing; he gathers in his soul the satisfaction of taking it to be healed and the hatred of its disgusting smell."

In the times that you are sighing with pain, say what our beloved Prophet, peace be upon him, ordered you to say, "I am satisfied with Allah as my Lord and Islam as my way of life and Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, as the Prophet of Allah." Say it with your whole heart, and tame your heart to kneel down to its meaning; wash your heart with its significance. Being satisfied with the actions of your Lord is a branch of being satisfied with Allah as your God... And when you accept His actions, He makes your heart satisfied with Him!

Let your heart breathe in the satisfaction; let it feel the beauty of satisfaction, then contemplate your body, and you will see the beginnings of His healing filling the corners of your body, by the will of Allah...

Raise your hands and mention His name in your prayers. Then, let it pass through all of your body. Allah returns with this pass, which is filled with your belief, things that were about to fade away!

Turn the sickness into the start of a new era in which you know your Lord from His name, Ash-Shafi...

▪ **Rivers of sins**

You have suffered from a lot of diseases in your life, haven't you? Who healed you?

Was it not Allah? Why do you think that disease is the only thing for which He is unable? This thought and feeling is worthy of His punishment. Maybe your disease is just the result of your weak belief. First, call Ash-Shafi to heal you. Then, dust off your heart from the sickness, and you will be healed.

All the patients in hospitals await the permission of Ash-Shafi, the Exalted in the heavens to heal them...

There is no sigh except that He hears it, and no pain except that He knows its location, and no breath except that He knows its fire in the heart.

After His destiny is accomplished and your tears pour like rivers of sins, Allah, may He be glorified and exalted, orders vitality to return back to your soul and body, so you begin to walk on His earth without any sin!

Because He is the Most Merciful, He heals you...

Because He is the Omniscient, He heals you...

Because He is the Patient, He heals you...

Because He is All-Powerful, He heals you...

Because He is Allah, He heals you...

With Him you will delete the numbers and names of the doctors!

With Him you will forget the locations of the hospitals!

With Him you will cancel the appointments of the clinics!

Build in your room a new hospital called “the prayer rug”...

Proceed in prostrating...

And record in your heart only one name: Ash-Shafi!

O Lord, O Shafi, pour out Your healing and mercy for every weak soul and for every exhausted body and for each tired heart. O Lord, You are All-Hearing of our prayers.

Al Waki'l "The Trustee"

You wishes are truths with Allah
Your aspirations are living situations
Your desires will be guided to you
Your longings will be gifted to you

Al Waki'l "The Trustee"

Do you feel that you are weak? And that this worldly life with all of its details is bigger than you and that you are just a feather billowing in the direction in which the wind of this loud life is blowing?

Do you feel that you are just a bird with no wings, so your strength languishes and you need help?

Do you have possessions—whether children, money, health, or even life—that you fear for and you want to deposit them with an honest one who will keep them safe?

Then advance with me to enlightenment of the name of Allah: “the Trustee.”

You should start by re-defining this great name, plunge yourself to the depth of its meaning, comfort yourself with it in your weakness, your worries, and your longing to feel the shade of “the Trustee.”

▪ Take Him as your Trustee

The Trustee is the only One to put your trust in, the only One to return to, the only One to put your confidence in and the only One to put your aspirations on.

Any of your affairs which you put in the trust of Allah, you can forget about them entirely. As you trust Allah, it means that you put your confidence in the One who owns everything between the heavens and the earth and who safeguards all, while nothing safeguards Him. So, He will take care of your affairs.

Allah, the Exalted, says about His Almighty Self, “The Lord of the East and the West—there is no god But He—therefore, take Him as Trustee.” Take Allah, the Lord of the East and the West, as Trustee. What else do you need besides the comfort, honor, glory, and guarantee of success gifted to you by Allah?

He just you to say with all your heart: “O Allah! You are my Trustee!”

Is there anything richer on the surface of this earth than Allah wanting you to put your trust in Him, to take Him only as a safeguard, to seek shelter in Him only?

Nothing is equal to such richness at all, as it is beyond the power of humanity to protect you from everything, to divert all harm from reaching you, and to support you in everything.

Only Allah says that to you, does that for you, or is even capable of doing it!

Putting your trust in Allah comes from the certainty of the heart. It shelters you under a great cover to rest from the weight of burdens, from the rains of conspiracy, and from the restless wind of life. The one who is deprived of such blessings is the one who does not appreciate the certainty of this coverage and the one who does not attempt to walk under it.

The Greatest King and Noblest Lord of All Lords, the Exalted, orders you directly to take Him as a Trustee! He wants you to put your needs in His Hand to have them fulfilled. He wants you to turn to Him so as to protect you from the arrows of betrayal. He wants you to entrust Him with your affairs so that they will be accomplished perfectly and ideally. The question in this regard is: what are you waiting for?

What would prevent you from accepting this Grace? Who else gave you these blessings?

We are attached to the worldly dust to a frightening extent!

Read:

﴿ And put thy trust on the Exalted in Might, the Merciful, Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer), And thy movements among those who prostrate themselves ﴾

What is the biggest matter, the hardest infliction, and the greatest burden which will defy the Honorable Lord, in your imagination? He is the Lord of Honor itself. He is the Lord of all the kinds of Honor you have seen, heard of, or known. So how can your inflictions defy the will of Allah, the Lord of Honor, Glory, and Greatness?

▪ **An Annual Plan**

The greatest thing you may entrust Allah with is His worship and is to quit and leave your ability and power and to say with your heart before your tongue: ﴿Thee

do we worship, and Thine aid we seek..﴾ So you seek His safeguard and you entrust Him as well as asking Him for power to worship Him.

It is unbelievable to even think that Allah, who orders you to worship Him and orders you to entrust your affairs to Him, would let you down. That would never happen. It is unimaginable that Allah, who orders you to worship Him and loves your worship, would not support you! Just repeat these generous prophetic words:

"O Allah! Help me to mention your grace, thank you, and properly worship you."¹

Have I just said repeat it a lot ?

Then accept my apology! Do not just repeat these words, but put them within your daily schedule, annual plan, and life objectives!

If He does not help you, no other power will help you!

If He does not help you, you will never even do a single part of it!

If He does not help you, you will lose this life and the Hereafter!

Ibn al-Qayyim said:

“Ibn Taymiyyah, Sheikh of Islam—may Allah glorify his soul—said, “I thought about what was the most beneficial prayer, and I concluded that it is asking for help from Allah to please Him, and I found this prayer manifested in Surah al-Fatihah (Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek).”

He also said:

“The heart is subject to two great diseases. If Allah’s servant does not find a cure for them, they will damage the heart. The two diseases are hypocrisy and haughtiness. The cure of hypocrisy is (You we worship) and the cure of haughtiness is (You we ask for help).”

¹ Related by Abu Dawood in his Sunnah (1424 – 1 / 561) and Al Nisa'ei in his Sunnah (1303 – 3 / 53)

I often listen to the words of Sheikh of Islam, Ibn Taymiyyah—may Allah glorify his soul—such as, “saying (You we worship) is the cure of hypocrisy and the cure of haughtiness is (You we ask for help).”

Have you thought about the compulsory congregational prayer that you have just finished? Without Allah’s help, you could not perform it.

▪ **Submission to Allah**

He is merciful. Just put your needs in front of His door. Just make your heart submit to Him as if your heart has no power before His power. If you did not do so, the Merciful Almighty wants you to become like that. After that, have confidence that He will fulfill your needs, cure your diseases, and bring a smile upon your lips.

Your wishes with Allah are facts

Your aspirations with Allah are living situations

Your desires will be guided to you

Your longings will be gifted to you

﴿And put thy trust on the Exalted in Might, the Merciful, Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer)﴾

The One you stand to pray to, the One you prostrate to, and the One you bow down to is the right One to be entrusted with your needs, to be entrusted with your recovery, to be your shelter from your fears, and to be your supporter to achieve your dreams.

Keep your hands holding fast to the covenant of Allah all together,

As He is the Support if others fail you!

The son of a good woman decided to complete his studies abroad, and she had a preconceived notion about the loss and deviation in which some of those who study abroad become involved. She was helpless, however, as so many situations forced her to accept the matter. She knew that only Allah could save her son, so she dedicated a portion of her prayers to calling upon Allah to save her son. The

son came back from his studies as a frequent visitor of the mosque, a frequent performer of night prayer, a caller for good and forbidding of evil! He had acquired what he had been lacking before! How can we imagine that the Trustee would leave the son to be lost while his mother prays humbly to Allah to save her son, saying, “I have entrusted You with my son, so do not let me down in regards to him”?

▪ **Smiling tears**

If a king of this worldly life said to you, “Entrust me with your rights to have them all returned to you from an unjust person. Just trust me!” would you doubt that your rights would be returned to you? You just need the signature of one of the king’s assistants to force this unjust person to give you your rights with a shivering heart. What if you got the signature of the king himself? Or what if the king promised you to undertake the mission himself?

Now, put this king and his assistants aside and contemplate this with me:

﴿ (25:58) And rely upon the Ever-Living who does not die, and exalt [Allah] with His praise. And sufficient is He to be, with the sins of His servants, Acquainted ﴾

Every small need you wished to get has gone away , isn’t not?

There is no room for fear, no room for hesitation, and no matter for possibilities!!

Allah will turn all of your problems into solutions, all your pain will be happiness, all of your dreams will become true, and all your tears shall be smiles.

Your rights will be returned to your children after your death. Do not be preoccupied, even just for a single moment, with your pain and your deep rooted suffering with your sons after your death. When you die, the Ever-Living who never dies will be with them, will have mercy upon their state, will please them, and will make their lives better than when you were with them, as He is the Ever-Living who never dies.

▪ **The Oxygen of Life**

If no one has done you injustice, you must still put your trust in Him!

Your trust is not limited to the intimate discourse between you and Him against the unfairness of the unjust towards you, and it is not limited to your asking for the accomplishment of certain work!

Your trust in Allah is the Oxygen of life. Can you live without Oxygen?

You must entrust Allah with your health. Entrust Him with the pulses of your heart, the movement of your organs, the flow of your blood through your veins, and the digestion of food in your body.

If Allah does not give permission to your eyelids to close, your eyes will burn due to dryness!

If Allah does not give permission to your tongue to taste, life will be pale in your eyes!

If Allah does not give permission to your skin to feel touch, it will be cut into pieces without feeling anything!

Entrust Allah, the Exalted, with the piety of your children!

How many times have you seen children who were brought up in mosques but they became atheists—God forbid!

How many times have you seen children on whom their fathers spent money and took care of them but they get lost?

How many times have you seen children whose elder brothers care for them but they become among the deviant?

Only Allah knows the door of guidance in the heart of your son. Call to Him to fill it with faith. Say to Him in submission, “O my Lord! This is my son, and You are my Lord and his Lord. Guide him and direct him to You and help me in bringing him up!

O my Lord! I cannot order him to pray properly without Your help!

He will not pray properly without Your help!

Help us both to mention You, to thank You, and to worship You properly!”

- **Life is like Hell Without Him**

Entrust Him with the happiness of your life, as life is like Hell without Allah!

They say, “Praise your wife. Speak with her about the details of life to steal her heart. Smile to her. Treat her kindly. By virtue of the above, you will win her heart and her love!”

Yes, surely all of these are correct! Yet, before, during, and after these actions, you must say the following words: O my Lord! Make my wife fit for me!

Ask Allah for His help, trust in Him, and call upon Him with these words, “All my smiles to my wife are in vain without Your will.”

Prostrate to Him, saying, “Her heart is in Your Hands, not mine, so enhance our relationship and make us fit for each other.”

Allah wants you to admit to Him that you are weak with your limited power and humble potentials, and He is the only Almighty, Glorified and Great. If you comply with all of this, you will complete three-quarters of trusting Him. If you comply with this, surely, I am telling you that everything surrounding you will turn upside down. Believe me, everything will turn upside down!

Put your needs, dreams, and burdens aside. Let us imagine that you are a being with no needs, with no dreams, with no burdens, and with no diseases. You will still need to trust Him for Him to love you! Do you not want Him to love you? (Verily Allah loves those who entrust Him.) The meaning of Allah’s love for His servant cannot be evaded by anyone who is capable of even a little reasoning without his heart being shaken with compassion, wishes, and desires. Allah, the One and Only, loves you. This is a sufficient enough reason to put your trust in the Trustee, the Exalted, and to love the name signifying this great characteristic.

- **Sufficient is Allah for me**

Some people are driven with the desire to daunt you, to tell you something from this ugly reality, to shake your inner certainty, to play with your feelings, to order you to fear and to be frightened, to change your position, and to make you deviate

from your principles. At this moment, wash your heart with faith and say, “Sufficient is Allah for me, for He is the best disposer of affairs.” At that moment when you do so, you will return with favor from Allah and bounty, no harm having touched you. Read with concentration:

﴿ (3:173) Those to whom the people said: Surely men have gathered against you, therefore fear them, but this increased their faith, and they said: Allah is sufficient for us and most excellent is the Protector. So they returned with favor from Allah and bounty, no harm having touched them.﴾

When you are inflicted with severe afflictions, they will undoubtedly never harm you, and even the mental disorder that you thought it is inevitable from catching a little of it, it will never harm you. Your skin will not be harmed with sores. Your heart shall not even be hit by blame if Allah's will!!

Read with your heart: **﴿Entrust Allah and sufficient is Allah as your Trustee﴾**

If you trust Allah, do not let yourself think that you have trusted Him because you did not find an alternative. Never! You trust Him because He is the best to be trusted by any creature.

Some people may say, “We have nothing but calling upon Allah!”

It is astonishing! Is there a more powerful might than the only thing you have?

Calling upon Allah is a characteristic of trusting Allah. Calling upon Allah is a sign of strong faith as well, though it is simply voiced words that He is the Mighty Allah, capable of everything. This is the clearest example of putting your trust in Allah.

To the one who says, “I have nothing but Allah,” say, “Sufficient is Allah as your Trustee—Allah is the greatest.” What does this person lack if he is with the King of All Kings, the Lord of the East and the West?

Take your worldly life and leave

My heart free, unrestrained and strange

I am richer than you all

Even if you leave me alone with no potentials

- **Persuasive Reason**

Do you know why it is enough to put your trust only in Allah? There is a persuasive reason to do so—He owns both the heavens and the earth. ﴿Allah has all between the heavens and the earth, and sufficient is Allah as Trustee﴾

Do you fear a human living on the earth? But this human belongs to Allah, and Allah, the Exalted, is controlling him!

The disease that has destroyed you, and you have not found a medication to cure it, is it on the earth? Yes, so it belongs to Allah, and Allah, the Exalted, is capable of ordering it to leave your body!

These afflictions, burdens, grief, suffering, and preoccupations are on the earth, are they not? Then, put your trust in Allah who owns everything on the earth, for He can remove with a single word all of your afflictions, burdens, and suffering.

Because Allah, the Exalted, is the One who created everything, He is capable of doing anything. So, put your trust in Him. ﴿Allah is the Creator of everything and He has charge (control) over everything.﴾

Contemplate these words: Sufficient is Allah for us, and He is the best Trustee!

Do not we have Allah except as our supporter and keeper? Then, Allah is the best Trustee, as there is no greater, more glorified, or more worthy trustee than Allah.

- **Watch out!**

Beware trusting anyone other than Allah! Beware seeking safeguard from other than Allah, as you will be inflicted with weakness. You will be invaded with devilish whispers, and your heart will be attached to mundane aspirations. Allah, the Exalted, says, ﴿Do not take a trustee other than Me.﴾ You are prohibited to search for others, while Allah exists. You are prohibited to trust others, while Allah

is the Ever-Living. You are prohibited to seek shelter from others, while Allah is The One who provides provision.

Because Allah is All-Hearing and All-Knowing, you trust Him. He hears everything, even what occurs in secrecy, and He knows everything, even what is spoken in the darkness. How dare you trust other than Allah and others cannot hear those things or know those things? **"Put your trust in Allah; Surely He is All Hearing All Knowing."**

The unjust one who harms you, he is just a creature who belongs to this same Lord who is protecting you! Thus, put your trust in Him to divert his harm from you, and say with honor, {I put my trust in Allah, my Lord and your Lord! There is not a moving creature but that He has grasp of its forelock.}

Even if Satan, who has his soldiers and followers and was gifted by Allah the power to whisper, to frighten, and to possess humans and other beings, cannot exercise his power against those who put their trust in Allah. {Behold, he has no power over those who have attained to faith and in their Sustainer place their trust.} What if we apply the same criteria to the manager at work, bad neighbor, prince or minister?

Remember!

{And if anyone puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him.} You will not have a need for help from anyone else if you put your confidence and trust in Allah and make Him as your Supporter for all of your affairs.

Allah is sufficient for you, and He is the One who diverts afflictions from you.

If Allah's protection did not shelter you from all sides, you would perish.

Life is like a field full of diseases, burdens, beats, plots, and conspiracies. Without Allah's protection, snakes would swallow you alive.

I am not trying to frighten you, but it is the truth!

Say: O Allah! I put my trust in You!

Have you said it with your heart? Now smile as all the snakes perish.

▪ **Things Threatening You**

If you left your house, you might face something outside such as:

a very grievous accident. Getting ill because of the wind. falling into a ditch. A rude person may insult you. A hateful person may envy you. A hard headed person may burden you. Or a dishonest vender may cause you loss. Thus, you have to say what was recommended by our Noble Prophet, peace be upon him, “O Allah, I seek refuge with You lest I should stray or be led astray, or slip or be tripped, or oppress or be oppressed, or behave foolishly or be treated foolishly.”² Now, you can go out to smell the air of success and facilitation by virtue of Allah’s will. All these fears cease to exist.

When you go to sleep, rely upon Him and assign your affairs to Him with fear and desire of Him.

In every moment and in every second you have to remember that, there is God who you should put your trustee in, you are in a dire need for his support, don’t miss this opportunity, this gift, this quality.

O Allah! Make us among those who put their trust in You! We seek shelter in You, pour out your faith in our hearts and make this faith divert us from trusting anyone other than You!

² Related by Abu Dawood in his sunnah (5096 – 4 / 486)

Ash-Shakour (The Most Thankful)

With the generosity of Allah, mathematical calculations change!

**As His generosity is not subject to mathematical equation but rather divine
grace!**

The Most Thankful

Surely, you have done a favor for someone and he has denied your favor upon him! He forgot about you completely! Your favor was not reflected on his face, as it was still frowning like before!

It is undoubtedly a very difficult experience!

Life is full of those who cannot grasp the concept of: thank you!

They fail even to utter the words, “May Allah be pleased with you.” The concept of smiling is unthought-of.

Leave those people alone. Life is too short for you to waste your time on blaming them or even thinking in the status of denial in which they have decided to live. Seek shelter in the Most Thankful, the Exalted, to give life to the roses of your heart that have been destroyed by the ungrateful ones.

Live your life with the Most Thankful. Contemplate the hidden meanings of this great name. change the ups and downs of this arduous life with the meanings inherent in this great name.

▪ He surprises you with His gifts

Allah, the Exalted, thanks His servant for his good deeds. The words “good deeds” have unlimited possibilities, almost enough to fill, with their greatness and extensiveness, what is between the heavens and the earth.

Allah, the Exalted, orders you to comply with the good deeds which will fix your life in this life and the life of the Hereafter. If you comply with these good deeds, Allah, the Exalted, is the One to be thanked, as He guides you to these good deeds, He facilitates them for you, and He ameliorates your state, does He not? However, Allah, with His generosity, is the One who thanks you for these good deeds!

Is there a generosity that can compare to the generosity of Allah? Is there anyone who is more openhanded than Allah? How does He thank you?

Ages may tear apart but this question may remain unanswered.

As He cannot be seen, the same concept applies to His names and characteristics, whose essence and nature cannot be understood by using reason alone.

However, we have the way to think and to contemplate to have ourselves immersed with this great name in order to figure out its grace in our lives.

Being the Most Thankful,

He forgives sins and conceals shortcomings

He glorifies blessings and rewards

He gives health, welfare, children, money, and blissful livelihood

He blesses you with a good memory and good reputation

He answers your prayers, He makes you feel with His nearness, and He makes you feel not alone

He recovers you from diseases which have killed so many people

He removes afflictions, less than which have perished the souls of others

He guides you to the right path and many have deviated from it

He comforts your heart with His guidance and remember that many hearts of people are smart than you, more knowing than you, and may have adopted Islam even before you but have deviated away taking the astray way.

▪ **Mathematical Calculation**

Read and contemplate:

﴿The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed [of grain] which grows seven spikes; in each spike is a hundred grains.﴾ Have you finished? No! ﴿And Allah multiplies for whom He pleases.﴾ O Allah the Exalted!

A grain of work can be multiplied by Allah's grace, generosity and gratitude into seven hundred grains of reward.

How on earth does one grain multiply to seven hundred?

You do one good deed, worthy of one reward, but Allah multiplies it into seven hundred. And Allah multiplies the rewards of whomever He pleases.

With Allah's generosity, all mathematical calculations change; as His generosity is not subject to mathematical calculations but rather divine grace!

O Allah, the Exalted! He surprises you with His gifts, and He amazes you with His generosity. Is there anyone on this earth who is not gifted by the Great and is not flourished by the Ever-Generous? Not just during each moment, but even during each small portion of every moment, we receive countless gifts and rewards!

▪ **Mention in the Book**

Allah's prophets have done good deeds and had a patience on calling for the way of Allah to communicate His words, so He has thanked them by elevating their names, has made them examples to be followed, has preserved their stories forever, has documented their moral lessons in His Books, has protected their dignities by not allowing anyone to underestimate their potentials or to think ill of them. Allah, the Exalted, has certainly thanked them.

By mentioning them in His Holy Books, I feel it always with sincere compassion!

Any servant of Allah was created by His Ability. He was a thing not worth mentioning, and then Allah says:

{And mention Ibrahim in the Book; surely he was a truthful man and a prophet.}

{And mention Musa in the Book; surely he was sincere.}

{And mention Ismail in the Book; surely he was truthful in his promise.}

{And mention Idris in the Book.}

Take a pause in reading: {We found him patient,} then continue reading: {most excellent the servant}. The great King says about one of His servants: most excellent is the servant!

O Allah! How great His generosity when He wants to show it!

Consider His gratefulness to our Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and how Allah distributed His mercy to him: ﴿Will they distribute the mercy of your Lord﴾ He has favored him with His Message: ﴿Allah best knows where He places His Message.﴾ He was with the Prophet in all roles of his life: "And Allah will protect you from the people. ﴿He beautified him with the most beautiful of morals: "And most surely you confirm yourself to sublime morality.﴾

Behold the juxtaposition of the name of Allah and the name of His Prophet in the call to prayer and the Islamic testimony of faith.

Hassan said:

Allah has included the name of Prophet next to His

When the caller to prayer says: I testify...

He has derived his name to glorify

The Lord of the Mighty Throne is praiseworthy and this is Muhammad!

The companions of the Prophet, peace be upon him, who sacrificed their souls, lives, and wealth to ensure the victory of Islam were thanked by Allah when He affirmed that any evil words against them were a sort of hypocrisy. He is pleased with them. He doubled their rewards. He rewarded with the best bounty all of them. And He made them the best of generations. Allah says: ﴿Certainly Allah was well pleased with the believers when they swore allegiance to you under the tree.﴾ He also says: ﴿To each Allah has promised good.﴾ The prophetic hadiths make very clear and obvious the grace of them as general and their prominent persons. All of these are due to the gratitude of Allah upon them for their belief, striving, and exertion of effort.

▪ **An Atom**

The Most Thankful thanks those who do good. Allah, who has the loftiest attributes, sincerely thanks His servants in a way that suits His generosity, glory, and greatness. His way of thanking is not normal. Because He is the Most Thankful, He frequently thanks His servants for a single good deed done. Because He is the Most Thankful, He thanks His servants for the big good deeds and even the small good deeds, provided that they be performed solely with the intention to

gain the pleasure of Allah. Allah does not only thank His servants for the great deeds they do, but He thanks them even for an atom-sized good deed: {So, he who has done an atom's weight of good shall see it} First, Allah granted a woman with Paradise by virtue of a date. Second, He admitted a woman to Paradise for giving water to a dog. Third, there was a man whose life was full of sins, so he ordered his children to burn his body after death and to throw his ashes after burning him, for fear of being asked before Allah. So Allah made Him enter Paradise because of his fear of Him. Fourth, a man had nothing but one blessing—he gave charity to his friend. Fifth, a man killed one hundred people, but he sought the refuge of Allah and emigrated with his soul to him.

Part of Allah's way of thanking His servants is that He quickens the reward of the charitable by giving him benediction and overwhelming him with blessings. Our Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, told us: **"He accepts repentance from His worshipers and takes it in His right Hand and then enlarges it for that person (who has given it) as anyone of you brings up his baby horse."**³ This is surely a part of His thanking and delight by virtue of His servants' worship!

Ten years ago, when we were standing in front of a famous store, one of the inhabitants of the eastern region told me a story about the store. He said that his friend was a regular employee there who used to save part of his salary, and his wife would do the same, so that they could build their sweet home. Their savings were almost sufficient to start the process of building a house. The husband went to pray in a mosque and heard a speech given by one of the preachers who were urging people to build mosques: **"Whoever builds a mosque for the sake of Allah like a sparrow's nest for Allah, Allah will build for him a house in Paradise."**⁴ These words deeply touched the heart of the husband, so he went to his wife, telling her of his intention to put all his money into charity to build a mosque. His wife gave him her money gladly, and she requested to give him a hand with the project of building the mosque!

Can you imagine that? You change your plans, for which you have been sacrificing years of time and work, in one single night! This change was made purely for the

³ Related by Sahih Bukhari (1410 – 2 / 108) & Related by Sahih Muslim (1014 – 2 / 702)

⁴ Related by Ibn Majah in his Sunnah (787 – 2 / 498)

sake of Allah, the Exalted, and this change came from a living heart who desires Allah and the life of the Hereafter.

My friend added that, after building the mosque, the couple began saving from scratch again. An idea came to the husband to invest in trade. Then, he opened a small store. Countless clients came to him from around the globe and he earned an enormous profit. So, he renovated his store to make it more spacious and he opened subsequent second and third branches. My friend also added that he has accumulated thirteen branches in the eastern region alone in the past ten years. O Allah, You are the Most Thankful who never causes loss to those who trade with You.

I recently met someone whose name is so-and-so Al-Rahily. I joked with him, saying, "Are you the owner of Al-Rahily's famous stations in the city of Jeddah?"

He said to me, "No! The owner is my relative!"

Then he told me, "I will tell you about the story of Al-Rahily. At the beginning of his life, he was a frequent giver of charity to the poor. He supported the orphans, and he was extremely generous to his family. Then, Allah bestowed upon him from His blessings and he took ownership of these stations along with many other successful commercial works. Surely, this was the deed of the Most Thankful, the All-Praiseworthy, the Exalted.

▪ Give to be Given in Return!

Our Prophet, peace be upon him, said: "**The wealth of a man will not diminish through charity.**" We must believe in these words most heartily. Here our Lord says in His divine Hadith: "**O my servant! Spend (in charity) and I shall spend on you.**"⁵ If you spend a Riyal on a poor man, trust in Allah that He will bestow His grace, health, satisfaction, and charity on you, in the equivalent of your Riyal or perhaps more than that.

While heading to the mosque to pray the Friday prayer, a poor university student heard a poor man who was next to a box of contributions urging people, saying, "**O my servant! Spend (in charity) and I shall spend on you.**" The student searched

⁵ Related by At- Tirmidhi in his Sunnah (2495 – 9 / 111)

in his pockets, and the only thing he could find was 5 Riyals. He took them and put them in the box. The voice of faith in his heart was saying, "O Allah! I spend despite my poverty, so spend on me from Your richness!" That evening he was visited by his brother who told him (without knowing his situation) that it was his turn in the savings association and he was not in need of the money in full, yet the student refused. After a long argument, the brother took out two thousand Riyals and gave it to him. Here, Allah spent on him!

I read in an old magazine a story: One day, in the morning, a beggar knocked on the door of a house. The woman living there took from her wallet the last one hundred Riyals she had and gave it to the beggar. In her heart, she cried secretly, "O Allah! Spend on me ten times that! Ten times that!"

She went into the kitchen and made her husband breakfast. Her husband woke up and sat next to her at the table. While he was eating his breakfast, he remembered something and said to his wife, "On the table over there is an envelope that I received yesterday from the post office. It's for you." The wife picked up the envelope to see what was inside. She found a bank check to pay her for the article that she had written in the newspaper. Surprisingly, it was exactly one thousand Riyals!

▪ Do Good deeds

I seek refuge in Allah that your aspirations and wills are all related to this dirty Life; as many of Allah's rewards are to be saved by Him to the Hereafter where everyone will be in a dire need.

One of the clearest image of divine thanking is the one which is associated with filial gratitude, including facilitating the way to live and succeeding all affairs as of success in life is limited to the people of kindness. You can investigate the matter yourself and you will find that a common foundation among most successful people is kindness to their parents.

Allah, the Exalted, says: "**And do good actions.**"

Even if your good actions are insignificant, the Most Thankful appreciates them: "**Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it!**" The servant will see the reward bestowed upon him.

Although an atom cannot be seen by the naked eye, you have still done good deeds and you will see the fruit of each deed awaiting you on the Day of Judgment. Allah will be sure to please you and strengthen your heart on a Day that will make the children gray-headed.

When you pay attention to switch the light of your car off at the traffic light so as not to disturb those in front of you, the fellow drivers are unaware of your intention behind doing so, and they may not even pay attention to you at all. But do not ever think that the Most Thankful will not reward you. How can it be so? It does not matter! It is possible for an affliction which will blind you, an accident to damage your car, or to fall into a problem, yet Allah has protected you from this as a way of thanking you for your noble actions.

Your carefulness to open the door quietly at night so as not to disturb those who are sleeping!

When you stand holding the door of the mosque open for an old man to enter!

When you avoid running over a passing cat!

Your smile to a child!

Your carefulness to keep your room at your house neat!

Your prayer for a Muslim after his death because you know that he has no one else to pray from him!

When you close the tape which was not well closed!

When you lift a branch thrown on the street!

All of these are good actions: "**And do good actions**"

- **Keep your mouth shut!**

The finest action that you can do is to hold the Holy Qur'an and start reciting a section. Then, your eyes may see something or your heart may feel something highly advisable to you by Allah and you insist on keeping yourself on fire so as to get as much of it done as you can before the end of the day. By such, you commit

yourself to the greatest deed to be done. You are surely doing a deed for which the Holy Qur'an was revealed!

If you ask about the greatest thing you can do, it is to surrender yourself to Allah, to live as a Muslim, to worship Allah as a Muslim, to treat people in the way that a Muslim should treat others, to see, speak, and feel as a Muslim, and to die as a Muslim!

Imam Ahmed was asked, "If someone dies following Islam and the Sunnah

Imam Ahmed was asked: anyone who dies following Islam and Sunnah, does he die peacefully? He said to the asker: keep your mouth shut! He dies with all the blessing and peace!

Allah the Exalted says: **"Whatever good you send before yourself, you shall find it with Allah"**

Any good action you send it before yourself, you will that the Most –Thankful and the Guardian keeps it and makes it grow and when you come at the Day of Judgment, you find it superabundant and becomes greater than before!

"And whatever of good you send on beforehand for yourselves, you will find it with Allah, that is the best and greatest reward"

"And whatever good they do, they shall not be denied it"

It is weak Hadith but it is good on the level of meaning: **"Good works protect from evil fates."**⁶

It is part of His thanking not to waste your good action but He will make it as a protection to you in order not face a horrible death!

So the feeling that He is called the Most –Thankful the Exalted and all good comes from Him makes the servant entrust his Lord with bona fida.

▪ To where?

⁶ Related by At – Tabarani in Al Mu'ham Al Kabir (8014 – 8 / 261)

It is said to a desert Arab: you are dying! The desert Arab replied: to where? It is said to him again: to Allah! He replied: how come I am afraid of going to the One whom I see nothing from Him but good?

It is a great feeling and a considerable hope in Allah which fills the heart of this desert man. The Holy Quran is recited to him and he heard the saying of the Sincere the Exalted: "**And whatever of blessings and good things you have, it is from Allah.**"

Is everything from Allah? Sure, everything surrounds you such as health, money, comfort, easiness and satisfaction: "**Great indeed has been Allah's favor upon you.**"

You worship Him only sixty or seventy years during most of which you sleep or your do permitted actions. However, He rewards you with the Heaven whose width is like the space between the heavens and the earth and you live inside it forever!

If Allah the Exalted gives for nothing in return, what if there is thing done? What if you have done something different than the rest of His good servant whom He blesses and loves by committing yourself to do good actions. Hence, you are not allowed to think that the Most – Generous will not confer His generosity upon you, the Most –Thankful will not thank you and the Praiseworthy will not praise you.

▪ **Relieving**

Three men are forced by the rain to seek shelter in a cave in the mountain. A big rock rolled over and blocked the mouth of the cave. They began to supplicate and beg Allah with their good actions, and the thanking of Allah the Exalted is to make their reward or part of it the dispelling of this anguish and to move this great rock away. Once the third one made his supplication, the great rock and the walked under the coverage of the sun!

Essa –peace be upon him- spent his life for Allah the Exalted since he was the first Word of Allah in the cradle and was the servant of Allah. Bani Isra'il were conspiring against him to kill him. Yet, the thanking of Allah was the strangest this time; as He raised him! Allah has rescued him from the focal point of grief, conspiracies and worries and He raised him to the heavens to live with angels and His good creatures.

You are always winner with Allah.

Allah is the capable of rescuing you from your situation. I know very well that you are flooded with burdens and afflictions and the typical concept suiting your state is (relief). Do good actions to have Allah relieved you. The same is applied to Younes who extolment to Allah is the reason behind his relief from the belly of the whale.

You trade with the One with infinite generosity, the One with infinite thanking and the One with infinite grace.

There is no possibility that you will lose in the market where Allah facilitates its affairs. Be with Him with keeping your eyes open to see His grace and thanking. He will leave you. Trust me, you will prostrate to Him and He will duly thank you. Just be with Him!

O Allah! Let us thank you for your blessing. Make us among those who mention you and those who thank Your blessing. Guide us to good actions which import Your thanking: the thanking of the Most –Thankful and the Praiseworthy.

Al Jabbaar – The Compellor, The Restorer

In each time your dream is turned off, Allah creates for you another beautiful one...

And in every time a good memory is faded, Allah creates another prettier one!

Al Jabbaar

Did the circumstances break your back? And the affliction conspired against you?
And the crises rushed on you?

Did the poverty changed your facial features? And the diseases took the vitality
and good of your fields? And being without a back and support made you appear
tiny? And the humiliating looks surrounded you?

Do you want someone to restore and reform your broken soul, dispersed heart, and
weak breaths? Why don't you learn about the name of Allah "Al Jabbaar" to
restore with its merciful meanings your breaks? And to bandage with its shadows
your wounds? And to calm down with its breezes the storms of your wild soul?

▪ Your broken heart... how did it break?

A part of the meaning of Al-Jabbaar is that He is The One who reforms the bodies
and hearts of His worshipers.

Living in the protection of the God provides us with the ointments of the health,
the bandage of happiness, the pains release, and sadness antibiotics.

He SWT knew that there would be breaks that will occur in the life of his
worshipers' body, heart and life; breaks that will leave its scars in their faces, and
its impacts on their souls. Therefore, He himself took the responsibility to fix them
by his mercy and He named Himself Al-Jabbaar to teach his worshipers that He is
the One with ability to handle them so they seek his refuge.

The downfalls in this life are several:

An accident where the bones smash, an insult where the soul lose its dignity,
poverty in which the spirit kneel down, disease where the strength fades away, a
deadlock where your hope dies on its threshold, a suffocating phobia surrounds
your spontaneity, hatred with which your feelings rebels against you,
circumstances that force you to kneel your head down!

As much as these downfalls, the doors of the heavens open with the bandages of
mercy and the restorers of intimacy!

How many of orphans who lost his soul because of the staring of his haughty friend, and without Al-Jabbaar, his soul might be crashed forever.

How many of weak one, the life slapped him through the hand of one of the tyrants, unless Al-Jabbaar was there for him, he would be humiliated all of his life.

How many of poor one was humiliated by a sharp word said by one of the richest, unless Al-Jabbaar was for him, this word would stayed as a stigma for him all of his life.

He support the back of the broken one, help the one who is in need, he guide the small to the highest position, and approaches the delayed. His mercies restores the wounds of the souls...

We know people who severely suffered from the difficultness of their fathers nevertheless they grew so merciful!

They suffered from the irony of their mates, however they became special and successful!

They suffered from Anemia, Tuberculosis, and chest allergy, they grew to be strong!

Where are these physiological knots, and where are the impacts of these diseases? All are fixed, the mercy bandages helped it to be gone, Al-Jabbaar destined to it to disappear...

▪ **And restore all of me**

He allowed for us to say between the two prostrations: “ 'O Allah! Pardon me, have mercy on me, help and restore all of me, guide me, and grant me sustenance.' ”

“and restore all of me”! it is like we are breaking a lot everyday so we need Allah to restore our health a lot!

Before almost eighteen years ago, the only daughter of my sister died between her arms, the latter screamed a suffocating scream I heard from the next room, it was the last scream! I entered the room before the dawn to see her mom full of sadness and disappointment. Her eyes did not sleep and her sighs was calling her name. Allah guided me to show her the prayer which says” O Allah! Compensate me in

my affliction, recompense my loss and give me something better in exchange for it " she said this prayer and her voice was weak from the affliction on her, her sad words were raised to the one who restores the hearts of his worshipers. Currently, she is pleased and compensated by sons and daughters, may Allah make them good to her and pious and give her and us from his favors.

If your soul was enflamed, your dreams are burned, and the building of your soul were crashed then say: Oh, Allah...

▪ **And loose a knot from my tongue**

In the last year, I met a student who had a knot-problem in his tongue, he barely say a word then he repeat it several times! I advised him to not prostrate except saying: Oh Allah, loose a knot from my tongue that they may understand my saying...

I have met him this year and shockingly, he was the most eloquent of those who I have ever met, I asked him- and I was forgetting to my advice- about the reason. He said: the prayer of supplicating Allah asking him to loose a knot from my tongue!

Al-Jabbaar has solved his knot...

He is Al-Jabbaar, there is neither sorrow unless he release it, nor sickness unless he cures it, nor affliction unless he pours His mercy on it...

Pain overcrowds in the heart of the slave till a degree he thinks it is impossible to get out of it, whilst Al-Jabbaar heals that heart, and after months, the slave forgets all of his pains and sorrows because Allah did not release them only but he fixed the place where it was smashed, so it returned as it was not smashed before!

He SWT restores the hearts, the bones, the souls and destine for the wounds to be healed, and the tears to stop pouring its waterfalls.

If pains attacked you, and the inflictions surrounded you...do not prolong your crying, a prayer rug that you head to Al-Qibla, can overcome all of these pain and inflictions in minutes if Allah wills!

- **He likes to see you smiling**

He stayed after praying Al-Maghreb kneeling his head to Allah mentioning Allah to forgive his sins, his pocket was empty except from some Riyals which were insufficient in front of the needs of the life, anyone who cast a look at him from a descent distance can realize how poor he is and the amount of the scars in his soul, but Al-Jabbaar was paying attention to him from the highest heavens, he destined for him to sleep free from any stress as he give him sustenance and gave him what he could not imagine!

He loves you SWT, so he creates from his fascinating destinies what makes your mouth able to show that pretty smile, and make it evacuate the desperation features which were in your face.

If you saw a disappointed person, do not leave him, restore him by your words and actions. Be the one who Allah employs to fix the broken. Do not sleep and your neighbor is hungry, do not laugh and your brother is crying, do not relax and enjoy the warmth of your home while the winds of winter demolished the bodies and homes of the poor and weak ones.

- **The cart...**

My friend says: I have seen an old lady pushing a cart nearby the Holy Kaaba full with small religious rugs to sell, the years have inflicted her skin to a terrible degree, he saw his mother in her shape, everything inside him cried, even his eyes shed tears at the end on her position; he took out what was in his pocket and put it in her hands and his soul was falling apart from sadness on this poor old mother...

He continues: I did not think ever that I am giving her a favor or being generous to her, or Allah, The Appreciative would appreciate me. I was merely attempting to fix a scar made by her situation in my broken soul, and unfortunately I could not succeed!

That month did not pass except the biggest sum of money in his life entered his bank account!

Allah will not see you fixing the peoples' life without appreciating your good deeds, indeed he is the appreciative, The Praiseworthy...

Be for people a caretaker when your life is not better

Be sweetness in life when your mates became bitter

Be the window from which the breezes enter on people who suffer from the smoke of the hard life, you may fix a life and get the high favor by your deed.

Remember the prophet (PBUH) when he visited a sick Jew!

Abu Bakr PBUH who was sweeping the house of the blind woman and preparing for her the food!

When Abdullah ibn Al-Mubark died, the poor lost the sustenance that he was placing in their thresholds before Al-Fajr. Thus, They knew after his death that was from him!

One of the foes of the great Sheikh Ibn Taymiyyah died, the people comes with the news to him as a way to make him happy. He got angry and went directly to his family and sons asking them if they are in need for anything they have just to ask him as he is like their dad!

They were busy with the great mission, the mission of healing the broken hearts, Allah was using them for this great honor...

▪ 83

My friend told me while he was a student in Umm Al Qura University that in his way to the university, he met a man in his way to pilgrimage asking him about the place of the police station, my friend told him that he is urgently busy as the criticism subject exam in the university was about to start as the net week was its time. Nevertheless, he took him in his way to approach him from the distance, the man told him that before 3 days he had lost his wallet, phone, the passport and everything that may identify him. He became unknown, unable to eat or sleep in a respectful place or contacting with anyone! This man told my friend: I got tired and in this time he cried saying: from three days I am trying to make people realize my needs and was sleeping in streets...He was broken deeply!

My friend said that he stayed supporting him by the words and reminded him with Allah and continued: Allah did not make you lose these things in Al Kaaba to make you humiliated for someone else. Just prostrate before him and he will be there for you, then he gave him eighty three Riyals, this is all what he found in his wallet, he delivered him to his place to see the smile returned back...

After two weeks, the results of the criticism exam which he did not answer any paragraph because its difficultness appeared. He thought that he would fail it and get big zero! He found that he achieved eighty three from one hundred in it! The same number of the Riyals which he has given to that man who came for pilgrimage was the same results that he achieved in his test! Without increasing or decreasing!!

Yeah, things the more you try to conceal, the brighter it appears and gets clear, the more you decide to not hear to it, it screams with a loud voice astonishingly, He is Allah, He is Allah, Oh my friend...

When Allah employed him to heal the broken heart and situation of this man, he appreciated his deeds...

▪ The servant's room

If they knocked the doors of the kings, knock the door of The Greatest of all kings...

If they stood before a prince in humiliation, stand before The Generous God...

If they travelled from a hospital to the other, wake up at night and say oh Allah...

In his hands, the fulfillment of the needs, healing has a great treasury in its size and position, do you know where is this treasury? It is in the hand of Allah!

{ And there is not a thing but its (sources and) treasures (inexhaustible) are with Us; but We only send down thereof in due and ascertainable measures. }

Happiness also has its treasury, safety, relaxation, satisfaction either. Do you leave the one in whose hands are the entities of everything and seek the satisfaction of a

slave who neither owe for himself a benefit nor harm nor death nor life nor resurrection?

How it is so funny for a visitor of a king to leave his king because of being busy talking with a servant in his room!

We do what is funnier than this when we leave supplicating for The King of this life and after life SWT and asking him what we want whereas we go in a therapeutic trip to Washington, or England then we return after months carrying our loss and disappointment!

What I am hinting to here is not about searching for healing, as it is accepted in Islam, but about thinking that a human being could cure, and forgetting the All-creator...

▪ **The dream and the memory**

Live days with Al-Jabbaar, pass his dignified meanings on your wounds, make it the cure for your soul sufferings, wake up with it the sources of happiness in yourself, make contemplations with it which make the sun rise in the emptiness of your soul.

Our prophet comes from Taif filled up with a huge amount from sadness, burning soul and disappointment after the foolish disbelievers injured his holy heels by stones. Allah, the king of this life and afterlife sees him sad, and his heart was full of pain. Thus, He sends Gabriel and the mountain angels to end these burning memories, He sends him in a special mission to smash the stable mountains above their heads!

The mountain angel looks to the prophet PBUH while he was drown in his sadness walking through Qarn Al-Thaalab, and say: My Lord ordered me to comply with your order, Muhammad, so if you desired from me to crash the two mountains above them, I am verily going to obey what you are going to say!

If He wanted to heal your broken heart, he would destroy a whole city for your sake!

But Muhammad, the prophet PBUH orders him to forgive and be merciful to them...

When the mockery hit the heart of Noah PBUH, he casted a look at the sky and supplicated saying: ﴿ Then he called on his Lord: "I am one overcome: do Thou then help (me)!" Therefore, The King SWT opened the gates of heaven, with water pouring forth, he sought all the earth for the sake of Noah!!

Can anyone rather than Allah be able to heal your broken soul with such an act?

Some people think that their mission is to destroy you, make fun of you, showing you in a little and tiny shape in front of your companions! Unless Al-Jabbaar was there for you, their cunning actions would have smashed you into small pieces...

They enter your eyes to steal from you the prettiest dreams, they sneak into your heart to delete the best of your memories! And the more a dream fades away, the more Allah creates for you another beautiful one!

▪ **A cup of coffee!**

Al-Jabbaar has provided us in life with bandages and medicines. We may know some of them, but we for sure are unaware of most of them. He created them in the life for you, so you can smile, live a descent life, and be free for his worshipping.

Our wounds heal when we take the right medicine, and when we eat the healthy food, and when we drink the pure water.

Our souls get healthy when we see the smile on the faces of the others, and when we feel their hands tapping in our shoulders, and when we hear the good word.

We transcend our psychological knots when we met a heart that beats with our love, and give us the helping hand, and a cup of coffee we drink slowly with love with the one we adore.

There are things that heal inside of us when we look at the beautiful landscapes of the nature, and when we hear the murmur of the water, and we stare at the bird when he is feeding his small tiny chicks.

Compulsory congregational prayer fills up the hole of depression inside our hearts, and mentioning Allah saying: Subhan Rabi Alazim (Allah the exalted in the heavens) takes our hearts to feel the greatness of Allah's Throne.

The prayers of the mother is a warmth in the winter life, visiting a friend is a pleasure in the mess of life, and the caring of a neighbor colors the image of your grey soul.

Orange juice forces you to smile, a piece of candy is a special deliciousness, and a warm bath is a great feeling of the end of tiredness.

Life is full of reformers, and our lord opts for us to being happy, smiling and to lead a descent happy life.

▪ **Be prostrating**

What makes you slow in your way to reaching the guidance of Allah?

What makes you late to reach the ship of the pious and worshipers, who recites his Ayahs in the middle of the night?

The shape of the fetus in the womb of his mother is like the one who prostrates to Allah, Allah is sufficient to you to give you sustenance and make the tightest places, the safest and happiest ones. Moreover, He would surround you with his mercy.

Be prostrating with your heart, and when you raise your head say with your beats: Subhan Rabi Ala'ala (Allah is exalted in the heavens)

And if you are smiling, hint with your arteries: Oh Lord of healing, heal my broken organs, then contemplate in the miracle when it is transforming your soul newly!

Oh Allah, heal our broken soul, body and spirit, you are indeed The All-Competent and Almighty.

Al Hadi “The Guide”

The One not bestows His guidance upon you because you are the son/daughter of someone, but He –by His will- guides you!

“He guides whoever to the right path”

The Guide

Are you eaten up by confusion? Do you feel that your mind fails to determine what is right and what is wrong? Have you been offered someday two jobs, and you are ignorant which one is the more proper to you? Does your mind filled with the decency of two girls, but you do not know whom you want to propose to marry? Are you exhausted from the so long journey of being lost and you are with strong desire to have Allah gifted you with the blessing of reaching the path of light and guidance? You are ready now to start a new phase with the name of Allah known as” The Guide”.

You need to have close knowledge to this great name. You want to take shelter in the Guide to cease in your mind the overwhelming confusion and to have you guided to the right path.

➤ Shelter

The linguistic origin of the term “Guidance” has to do with the state of diversion as if guidance is to divert from the wrong path to the right path, from deviation to the righteousness and from temptation to awareness.

He is only the Exalted is capable to guide you to have guided from the path of astray to the path of guidance and from the path of temptation to the path of righteousness.

The Allah, Himself, guides you, He guides others to you!

Thus, objects essential to the set your life higher state of well-being are to guide to you: water is to land on your land on which you reside, food is to reach to the place where you live and air finds its path to your lungs.

He guides His entire creature in so many different ways with reference to themselves and their states:

- The guidance of visually impaired people is to have him/her walking on the road, the guidance of the deaf is to understand the saying, the guidance of the elderly people is to reach to his final end ... etc.;
- The guidance of the child is to keep him/her away from harmful things

- The guidance of animals is to down root the righteous things for their lives deep inside the soul, so they become aware of their own benefits and the methods of having them done, the become aware of the harms and the methods to avoid them and they become aware of the risks and the methods to resist against them;
- He guides those who are lost in deserts;
- He guides those who read to reach their conclusion;
- He guides discoverers to invent;
- He guides hardworking people to reach the particulars of the target question;
- He guides preachers to the proper method;
- He guides fathers to find the ideal way of offering their sons/daughters advices;

▪ **It is not a coincidence!**

Allah guides you to your destination and you believe it as a matter of chance: He guides you through a verse recited by you while praying, He guides you through a dream, He guides you through a passing advice, He guides you through a word you read in a book, He guides you while you are overwhelmed in contemplation, He guides you through an unprecedented glance while thinking, He guides you through set circumstance to have you on the path of righteousness, He guides you through fear, He guides you through love and He guides you through death!

Listening to the Holy Quran is the ideal original way to embrace guidance; the Holy Quran is a reason gifted by Allah to have all His slaves guided ; as the Holy Quran includes all reasons behind guidance and righteousness: the Almighty Allah says: **“Surely, this Quran guides to that which is most upright”**. Thus, it is unbelievable to see a religious man acting in accordance with the codes stipulated in the Holy Quran is inflicted with perversity, deviation or retreat.

The story of Omar Ibn Al Khattab’s adoption of Islam is commonly known. Omar called in his sister with flames of anger apparent in his eyes, and when he started reading the holy words of the beginning of Surat Taha written down on a piece of paper held by her, his heart prostrated the greatness of Allah in the sacred place of

faith, and his faith was unstoppable until his unfortunate death –May Allah be pleased with him-

Can you guess his feeling that moment? What is the certainty embraced by his heart at that moment? How many guiding stations included within the Holy Quran but our contemplation disregards the significance of such? How many guiding directions still unrecognized by our hearts?

▪ **No! – No!**

Among the forms of guidance, there is a form represented in a dream in which you see yourself recovered from a disease, warning or guidance. It is said before that there was a patient who saw in his dream that his treatment is in (NO – NO), then, he went to a religious man (sheikh) to ask him for an interpretation, the religious man said that he did not know but he read the Holy Quran in full every two days. “Just give me awhile to find out a solution in the Holy Quran so as to interpret your dream” Sheikh said. After two days, Sheikh came to him and said: “your recovery is in olive oil, Allah Almighty says in Surat Al Nor (Illumination): **“lit from a blessed olive tree neither eastern nor western, the oil whereof almost gives light”** this is guidance by a dream.

Among forms of guidance which are similar to the guidance through dream is the deduction and induction of the meaning of a thing from its similar such as get recovery through performing prayers which have similar traits of the disease!!

A man came to a scholar complaining from edema which is a disease because of which liquids gathered in the body of a person and may lead to his death. The scholar advises him to dig a well and to have it endowed, the man dug the well and he got recovered from his disease by Allah’s will.

The scholar figured out the a similarity between the blockage of liquids in the body and the blockage of water in the earth, then, he decided that the worship (digging the well) is similar to that kind of disease and the recovery may be patent in it.

One of my colleagues informed that he crushed his niece two years ago accidentally by his car (Jeep) while he was going to pray, then her father took her immediately to the hospital. Death was so near to her. Doctors informed him that she would die by a percentage of 80%.

My nephew called my colleague, trying to remind him with the decency of faith, giving him an advice, advising him to slaughter a lamb as a sacrifice and giving its meat to the poor with the intention of having your daughter recovered! The father complied with the advice given by the nephew. Before the coming of dawn, the daughter got recovered and left the intensive care!!

Almighty Allah guided the nephew to see the compatibility between the meat given as charity and the crushed meat of the daughter, so the recovery is gifted by Allah as being more sincere to the reality than the expectations provided by the doctors!!

When it comes to guidance by a passing advice: it is said that there is a singer with a beautiful voice, then, one of the good people passed by him saying: what a beautiful voice! I wish you use it to recite the Holy Quran. Thus, the singer repented from that moment.

Guidance by the virtue of an advice is too wide and clear to be exemplified.

Allah may guide you through contemplation. The most obvious witnesses for such guidance are the story of our Master Ibrahim –peace be upon him- when the night over-shadowed him, he saw a star. The story is well-known, so there are contemplations in the miracles of the universe which were the reason behind the guidance and certainty of Ibrahim –peace be upon him.

▪ **A Burning Brand of Light**

Allah in heaven sees His lost slaves, He sees mountains of those who are lost with their souls surrounding them, He lightens the night with a burning brand of light to have them seen the path to reach the final destination.

Allah does not guide you because you are son/daughter of someone, but because Allah wants that by His will: **“He guides whoever to the right path”**. Allah reconciles your heart by His precious will.

Allah may guide you but you do not duly observe the duties of this guidance by the virtue of thanking Allah and working accordingly, so Allah deprives you from such blessing: the same is applied to the man who was gifted by Allah by miraculous communications yet: **“he withdraws himself from them, so Satan overtakes him, so he is of those who go astray”**

Allah may guide you and you thank Him and work accordingly, then, Allah bestows upon you others forms of guidance then you thank Him and work accordingly and then Allah continues in gifting His blessings thirdly and fourthly to make your life a continuous integrated flows of gifts.

Those youths of the cave were all guided to be true believer, they were all guided to hold patiently on their faith, they were all guided to know the path of salvation, they were all guided to have their course of life paved for such salvation and they were all guided by preventing them from hearing for a number of years. Allah, Exalted, said: **“surely they were youths who believed in their Lord and We increase them in guidance”**.

- **A lost Compass**

Amid the dark desert, you are definitely ignorant of the right direction and your ignorance means the absolute death because you are with no food and no camel. All of a sudden, you find yourself persistent to take a certain direction. You do not know something about stars, your compass is lost, and your companions left you alone awaiting you with overwhelming desire in the last and final destination of life.

Now! Can tell me something about such feeling? What is the elegant equation set to be his sole savior? Why did it come on the ground? How was it so much accurate to such degree?

Allah, during this moment, sees the horror disorder in your heart, He was hearing the whisperings deep inside your heart and He knew death personified in a thirst crushing the self of yours. Thus, Allah ordered an internal flash to ignite to make you feel with the path and reach your destination peacefully.

Do not get so attached to the literal representation of the experiment. You might not live it, but you or any of our relatives undoubtedly lived near circumstances

thereof. The question deemed of more paramount importance than all these details: who is the one who threw guidance in an anxious soul: a soul in need for a flash of hope?

He is the Guide, Exalted.

If you are watched by the eyes of carefulness

Then, sleep; all accidents are of nothing but sanctuary

Amid the harmonious integration between wind and your ship, wind is to be ordered to move northerly at that moment; as the rescuing island is located at your right direction and your sail will be crushed without the aid of such wind destined to be so by the Guide Exalted.

Ibn Taymaha drove himself away from houses with a crowded mind full of sayings with reference to the interpretation of certain verse from the Holy Quran. He read about it tens of ready-made interpretations. Yet, he was still stuck within the crowdedness of confusion. Then, he put his face in the dust with tear-dropping eyes, saying: “O Teacher of Dawood, teach me; O You who guided Suleiman to understand, make me understand”. Then, he returned with reasonable sayings deep inside his mentality shaped with divine guidance!

If you are not with Allah’s assistance gifted

Then, the first conclusion of your due diligence will be the resort

▪ **Then Allah guides you**

The guidance of Almighty Allah is not exclusive to human beings; as He guides all creatures, Allah, the Exalted, said: “ **He said that: Our Lord is He who gave to everything its creation, then guided it (to its goal)**”

Sheikh Mohammed Ratib Al Nabolsy describes something relevant to the concept of guidance, saying: “salmons move from the shore of Pacific Ocean to downstream in America to lay its eggs and they return back. After months, small fish goes out of the eggs and heads directly to the place where their mothers are! Their mothers are hundreds of kilometers far from them! But they never miss their

way, so who is the One who guides throughout their journey? He is the Guide, Exalted!

Someone saw a hedgehog eating a dead snake then it went to a grass to eat a leave from it, then moved back to the snake to take a bite and moved back again to the grass to take a bite. This person was desirous to know the secret of this grass, so he cut it. Then, the hedgehog came to eat a leave from the grass as usual, but it did not find the grass. The hedgehog stayed awhile and then it died.

Who is the One who guides this hedgehog to this grass in particular which has some characteristics deemed a good antibiotic to the poison inside the body of the snake? He is Almighty Allah.

A wolf attacked a deer and the deer bent over to have its horn deeply penetrated the neck of the wolf. Who has taught it that there is a sharp knife on the top of its head?

Who has taught it that such deed will be responsible for its survival? He is the Guide, Exalted.

During my childhood, I saw our cat and its new born kitties which crawl to it totally blinded then they put their heads in their bellies with a desire to search for its breasts with their mouths and then they start to drink milk. Who has taught these creatures absent experience and knowledge that by drinking that milk they will survive and failure of doing the same will lead to their death? He is the Guide, Exalted.

▪ **The Swamp**

One of Allah's greatest forms of guidance is to have all of His creatures returned back to Him, to have all of His lost slaves returned back to Him and to have His door of repentance opened for His slave whose souls are fainted during the autumn of karma.

One goes out during the cover of darkness of night to disobey the Lord of all lords. All of his senses are actively driven by a desire to reach the swamp of disobedience. Yet, Allah, at that crucial moment, ordered His guidance to reach his heart before his reach to the swamp, so all of his dark aspirations towards coming

the sin is all of a sudden collapses, a terrible wave of consciousness shocks him ups and downs, everything around him flies over, a new feeling currently strikes the essence of the self, he looks to the other side which is not the side of the swamp but the side of the dome of the mosque and a new enlightened era is up to start with the Guide Exalted.

▪ **A Paper!**

If Allah wants to guide you, He just throws a piece of paper in your way to be the reason behind your guide you to His the righteous path.

It is among the frequent rotation of narrative that a drunken man was reeling on the roads of the city. Then, the man saw with his shriveled up eyes a thrown a piece of paper written in which a name of Allah. His heart sank with sincere love and painful sadness. He said while crying: “a name of Allah on the ground!” He took the paper to his house to have it well cleaned and well perfumed and then he kissed it and put it on a high place. The man fell asleep to hear in his sleep a caller saying: “you put my name high, and I will with My Honor and My Glory have your name high.” Then, the man waked up with guidance filling heart in entirety and he was transformed from a man with no objectives in this life into a good well-known man in the course of history.

If Allah wanted to guide you, He will have you heard a voice saying to you: “fear Allah then your heart will consciously awake.

It is a story narrated about one of the three men trapped in cave mentioned in the prophetic narration. This man was desirous to have an illegal affair with his niece but she refused. All of a sudden, the niece was forced due to the ups and downs of life to ask for an aid from him and the man blackmailed her to have his desire fulfilled. Yet, before he got his awful desire fulfilled, she told him: “fear Allah, and never defile my virginity when undue.” The man stood up with overwhelming fear. The words of “fear Allah” left not even a single lust in his heart without being uprooted.

▪ **Lifeline**

You may be in the essence of amnesia, but Allah reminds you with Himself. You may be in the heart of your sin, but Allah awake you. You may be amid the

swamp, but Allah purifies you. You may be in the bottom of the pit, but Allah throws a rope to rescue you.

Allah guides you with sincere divine love that fills your heart bottom up. Allah guides you with fear which unsettles your stability, with disease which abases your pride, with need that put your arrogance to the ground, with poverty which burdens your back or with emptiness which tortures your soul.

Allah shows you the way back to Him and to the path of lights. Allah makes you a frequent visitor of the mosque after taking a sight from a place far from it with a total deprivation from acquiring the mosque's close guides. He teaches you the way to hold the Holy Quran in your hand after so long years of treating the Quran as a forsaken thing. Allah refreshes your tongue with saying His name after you were singing trivial songs.

You leave your home, heading directly to the mosque and all of a sudden you change your direction to another mosque. After praying, you hear a speech delivered by a preacher which may trigger a change to a well-established belief in you! A speech may trigger a change to your way of living or even your path of living.

The slave with his sensitive soul is capable of figuring out the guides given by Allah the Exalted, is capable of knowing that the whole universe has one Lord and is capable of knowing that Allah the Exalted may guides him by any means in the universe and He may mislead him –Allah forbids- by any means in the universe.

Allah the Exalted will not mislead anyone except for those who shut their hearts from the guidance and the religion of righteousness.

Hence, this life is subject to loss if guidance misses its way to you.

Do you remember the example of being lost in desert previously mentioned? Our state of being lost from His way, from mosque, from Allah is Great and from O Allah You are the Peace and from you peace is taken is more terrible than our state of being lost in desert and we will be in a more torturing alienation that the bird which missed its flock in the season of winter, then snows decided to eat up all of its flying dreams.

O Allah! Gift us with a divine of guidance that takes us away from the desert of loss to guide us to You and to guide us to a paradise, the extensiveness of which is as the heavens and the earth.

* * *

Al Ghaffour “The Ever –Forgiving”

Sin will spoil your life

They will beat your soul, they will turn water into water with unpleasant flavors, they will turn food into bad eating, they will turn night into a daunting night and they will turn daylight into boredom.

The Ever –Forgiving

If you got tired from your wrongs and sins, you felt that its bad omen spoiled your life, their darkness and bitch-black days blocked the happiness of your nights and days from reaching your eyes and you stopped feeling the good sensation while performing your prayers, praying and performing your ritual worships, you would have to know that time is up to go through the world of humanity and forgiveness with insatiable soul aspiring for forgiveness and transcendence in the name of Allah **“The Ever –Forgiveness”**

Now, you are in need to understand the meaning of forgiveness, to understand how is Allah is called the Ever –Forgiveness and the Most –Forgiveness and the extend of your need to such forgiveness in all roles of your life.

▪ Imprisonment

Having the soul inflicted with sins is greater than having the body inflicted with disease. Your soul is painfully suffering under the subjugation of committing sins. Your body may find an immediate pleasure while committing the sin, yet your soul is filing a painful complain to Allah.

Imagine yourself that you are in a very narrow prison and the width of its wall is one meter, thus how much suffocation will your feel?

Sins put your soul in prison similar to the aforementioned one! Sins surround you: **“his sin surrounds him”** and then sins suffocate your soul.

If there were neither hell nor paradise, sins alone are hell in themselves, they are like a drink of boiling water and they are a painful chastisement.

If you know that one of Allah’s names are the Ever –Forgiving, the Most –Forgiving and Forgiving as well as one of Allah’s divine blessings is that He forgive all committed sins, the walls of this prison will fall apart.

▪ Do you know?

I ask you by the solemn oath of Allah to say: O Allah forgive me!

Do not just say it but rather contemplate the essence thereof: O Allah forgive me

Is there something more spiritually joyful than these words which if you just utter them from the deep of your heart, all of these devilish whispers, hallucinations and fears will entirely fall apart?

Do you know that all afflictions, such as disease, strain, stress or pain are because of your sin?

Read this verse: **“And whatever affliction befalls you, it is on account of what your hands have wrought, and (yet) He pardons most (of your faults)”**

We are afflicted with gossiping, lie, cheating, envy, contempt, ingratitude, and desire to forbidden pleasures and delaying due duties much more than pains, burdens and sufferings.

We lose our face with a desire urging us to search for someone to lend us some money. Such need may be attributed to a sin committed by us. Yet, if we just say: O Allah forgive me with total subjugation to Him, we will not show such subjugation to His creatures.

We search for an incantator to tell him about the distress that we feel, the fear that spoils our life and the physiological changes that we feel. However, what has inflicted us may be attributed to a sin committed by us, and if we just say: “O Allah forgive me” with a living heart and with a heart desirous to repent and oft-turn to Allah, we will not be in need for such incantator!

▪ My Sins

The trait of forgiveness never become so clear and so representative as it was when I moved through reading volumes of the life of Prophet Mohammed:

Omar Ibn Al Khattab was about to persecute all Muslims from their religion. He took the scourge with a firm hold to strike the flesh of his female slave then he put the scourge aside, saying to her: “I let you because I got bored”

Muslims were believing that the adoption of Al khattab’s donkey of Islam was more reasonable and believable than the adoption of Al Khattab of Islam. This was because of the sever enmity of Al Khattab against Islam and his sever hatred against that religion. Then, Al Ghaffour opens His doors of repentance to him to become at the end of the day: Omar Al Farooq “Redeemer”!

What about the scourges which he used to strike the flesh of his slaves and female slaves? Where are them? All of them have been forgiven by Allah!

Khalid Ibn Al Walid climbed the mountain of archers in the Battle of Uhud and he was the cause behind the killing of Abdullah Ibn Al Jabbir and his companions – May Allah be pleased with them- who were on the mountain of archers. In addition, Ibn Al Walid was the cause behind the defeat inflicted upon the Islamic Army under the leadership of Prophet Mohammed –Peace be upon him-, he was the cause behind the injury of the Prophet of Allah who got a wound on his head, his front teeth damaged and the helmet penetrated his noble face.

Al Walid was the cause behind the blood flew on the face of Prophet Mohammed – peace be upon him-, and the Prophet said: **“the wrath of Allah became sever on the people who caused the face of Allah’s Prophet to bleed”⁷**. However, Allah says in the Holy Quran: **“you have no concern in the affair whether He turns to them mercifully or chastises them for surely they are unjust.”** Khalid Ibn Al Walid was one of those who won the repentance and forgiveness of Allah!!

He adopted Islam and Al Ghaffour forgives all of his sins. Allah the Exalted forgives all these sins. Al Walid went through a radical transformation from being the essential cause behind the defeat of Muslims in the Battle of Uhud into Allah’s unsheathed sword.

This honorable blood was shed by him? The helmet? And the honorable blood of the Prophet? All of these have been forgiven by Allah.

A man came to Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- with a crying heart due to the sins committed by him. He said to the Prophet: “Have you ever seen a man committed all sins never leave a sin uncommitted. He never left even a single sin uncommitted. Does he have a chance to repent? The Messenger of Mercy said to him: “Have you adopted Islam?” He replied: **“I bear witness that there is no god to be worshipped but Allah and that Mohammed is the Messenger of Allah.”** The Prophet said: “yes! You commit yourself to perform good deeds and abandon bad deeds, then Allah turns of them into blessings.” The man asked: “what about

⁷ Related by Ahmed in his reference book (2609 – 4 / 369

my sins and immoral deeds?” The prophet replied: **“Even your sins and immoral deeds”**⁸

- **Have you forgotten?**

Why do you feel that your sin is the greatest sin ever committed in this universe? Have you forgotten Al Ghaffour and Al Wadoud **“The Most Loving”**

Have you forgotten that Allah becomes the happiest with your repentance?

One of Prophet Mohammed’s companions saw a terrified woman among the captives searching for her son and when she found him, she hugged him passionately with a warm kiss imprinted on his face. Prophet Mohammed’s companions were amazed because of such overwhelming love and joy. Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- said **“Allah is happier with the repentance of His slave than the happiness of this woman with her son”**⁹

So what are you waiting for?

Say right now: “O Allah! Forgive me”

Say it with your heart, soul and tongue. Even your sins which want vigorously to convince you that forgiveness is an impossible target compel them to say: “O Allah! Forgive me!” Shout in the very inner most self with this divine saying: “O Allah! Forgive me!” Shout by the virtue of your shout that Al Ghaffour will forgive all of your sins not because of your shout but because of He is the Ever – Forgiving and the Most-Loving.

The sins of Abu Sofian Ibn Harb, Safwan Ibn Omima, Ikrima Ibn Jahl, Amr Ibn Al As and even more were disbelieving in Allah, fighting against religion and killing Prophet Mohammed’s companions, and then Allah – the Ever –Forgiving and the Most-Merciful covers them all with His forgiveness to be part of Prophet Mohammed’s companions! Do you know what does the word **“companion”**? Companion means the best ranked people after Allah’s prophets!

What did forgiveness do with Ikrima, Safwan or others?

⁸ Related by Al Tabarani in Al Mujam Al Kabir (7235-7/314)

⁹ Related by Shahih Muslim (2744 – 4 / 2103)

Forgiveness transformed them all from being Prophet Mohammed's companions' killers into honorable companions!

Feeling with your sins while they surround you makes your soul feel with pain, your thoughts incline to the black colors and make your words shiver. If you get a close vision, Allah's forgiveness burns down such pain, blackness and tension.

▪ **Blessedness**

Allah the Exalted forgives all sin by the saying of: O Allah! Forgive me.

Allah forgives by the virtue of repentance: **“Except those who repent after that and amend, then surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful”**

Allah forgives by the virtue of blessings: **“Surely good deeds take away evil deeds”**

Allah forgives by the virtue of infliction: **“Infliction is still befallen the believer in his self, his children and his money until he meets Allah the Exalted with no sins”¹⁰**

Do you know what should be done more in this life? The thing that you should never get bored of is asking for Allah's forgiveness. Our Prophet –peace be upon him- said that: **“blessedness is for those who find many request targeted for Allah's forgiveness written down in their books”¹¹**

You will find while the Day of Judgment takes place your friends and you will open your book full of requests targeted Allah's forgiveness, saying to them: “behold! Allah has responded to all these requests targeted His forgiveness and He forgave me!

Therefore, asking for Allah's forgiveness is permitted not only after committing a sin but also after performing a prayer!

Do not you say after your prayer: O Allah! Forgive me .. O Allah! Forgive me .. O Allah! Forgive me? As your prayer is full of defects subject to be repaired by the blessing of asking for Allah's forgiveness.

¹⁰ Related by Al Tirmizi in his sunnah (2399 – 4 / 602)

¹¹ Related by Ibn Majja in his sunnah (3818 – 2 / 1254)

- **Do not Despair!**

Al Ghaffour calls Himself the Ever –forgiving; as you will burn into dust without His forgiveness. Your sins will eat you up. You will feel with real suffocation and you will be addicted to cry.

If you feel that your sin is great and the man of religion whom you asked for an opinion with reference to your sin did not take into consideration the dark details of such great sin. He might answer you with no much reference to your question to listen carefully to Allah who knows every sin committed by His servants starting from Adam until the Day of Judgment; Allah knows event the single details of all these sins and immoral deeds with all of their evil degrees: **“Say: O my servants who have acted extravagantly against their own souls, do not despair of the mercy of Allah; Surely Allah forgives the faults altogether; surely He is the Forgiving the Merciful”**

Have your devilish whispers ended up? The One who said these words knows even from the revelation of this Holy Quran that you at a certain day will commit that sin. However, He said to you: **“Surely; Allah will forgive the faults altogether”** and your sin is undoubtedly one of these sins which are not beyond the forgiveness of Allah and are not greater than His mercy.

The most important thing is to ask for Allah’s forgiveness before giving up the sin and then you stop: **“But if they desist, then surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful”**.

How dare you say: O Allah! Forgive my sin and you still committing this sin?

How dare you delete your sin and you commit it again? Stop it in entirety so as to have your request for Allah’s forgiveness honest worthy to have the doors of heavens opened for well-receive.

- **The Greatest Will**

Allah the Exalted wanted for you so many things:

He wanted your existence then you are. He wanted you healthy then you are. He wanted you sane then you are sane capable of reading and hearing. But, do you know what is the greatest will wanted by Allah to you as a gift?

- It is to forgive your sins!

“And whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth is belonging to Allah; He forgives whom He pleases and chastises whom He pleases; and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful”

It is surely the greatest will ever to have your fully qualified to enter Paradise by the virtue of His mercy.

Those whom Allah forgives their sins are subject to diseases similar to their fellows but their smiles are never to be deprived.

Those whom Allah forgives their sin are subject to fiscal distress similar to their fellows but their heads are never to be down.

Those whom Allah forgives their sins may have their eyes full of tears but never show despair against the divine mercy of Allah.

Then, you have to put all of these burdens, sufferings and diseases aside:

Those whom Allah forgives their sins sleep during their nights with peaceful tranquility; as the strangest expectation ever is to die, but what if they die? All of their sins are forgiven, so death is not for them that terrified monster!

I call you by Allah in High to read but rather feel the following verse:

“And whoever does evil or acts unjustly to his soul, then he asks forgiveness of Allah, he shall find Allah Forgiving, Merciful.”

Do not you miss finding Allah Forgiving, Merciful? Then, ask for Allah’s forgiveness!!

- **The Most Beautiful Ever**

The Ever –Forgiving knew that sins will spoil your life, beat your soul, make water with unpleasant taste, food with unpleasant taste, night with sever loneliness, day with sever boredom, make relatives as hell, friends with doubts, turn the details of

life into hallucinations, make sleep into suffocation and loneliness with tears dropping, then Allah says to you: **“Will they not turn to Allah and ask for His forgiveness?”** Is not that more beautiful than their status quo? Have you never got bored of these accumulated inflictions? Have not you missed to draw a smile coming directly from your heart? So why have not you yet asked for Allah’s forgiveness?

▪ **Do not Get Surprised!**

Al Ghaffour always forgives, He forgives with generosity, He forgives what cannot be forgiven by humans and He surprises you with His forgiveness!

He always forgives:

As he forgives the sins between a prayer and the next prayer, between the visits to the House of Allah and the next visit, between the month of Ramadan and the next Ramadan and between pilgrimage and the next one if you get yourself away from committing deadly sins.

Thus, the life of Allah’s servants is a course of Allah’s permanent forgiveness, pardon and mercy.

Imagine with me that: you pray Al Fajr and then you go to your work where you commit sins and immoral acts –except for deadly sins- then you make your ritual ablution to pray your midday prayer. Before you end up saying: May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you, all of your sins have been forgiven in entirety. The same is applicable the forgiveness between every prayer and the next one. What will we do if our Lord is not the Forgiving?

Allah forgives with generosity:

As He forgives all sins by fasting only for one day in the year!

He forgives all sins when you say: “Allah is free from imperfection and all praise is due to Him” one hundred times. In other words, two minutes saying that is enough to put down of your shoulders sins committed during the course of seventy years! Is there generosity comparable to Allah’s?

Allah forgives what cannot be forgiven by humans:

Allah forgives sins and immoral acts when give a thirst dog water!

Allah surprises you with His forgiveness:

This is to applied to what occurred in Badr Battle when Allah saw the believers and said to them: do what you want, I forgave you all!

All their sins committed or to be committed are forgiven!

Among those who are seen by Allah in the Battle of Badr is Haritha Ibn Soraqa who was a boy joined the army as an assistant not a fighter. He was just a watcher assigned to follow the battle from a place far away of the field. Then, he went to the well to drink water, yet he was killed by an undirected arrow which penetrated his throat to meet his sudden death. When Prophet Mohammed returned to Madina, he was received by the mother of Haritha saying to him: “O Prophet of Allah! Tell me about Haritha! If he is now in Paradise, I will cover my sadness with patience otherwise I will tearfully pray for him” and Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- said: “O Mother of Haritha! There are heavens in Heaven and your son is in the Seventh Heaven (Firdaws)”¹²

Ibn Kathir said: “this is a great notification expressing the blessings targeted the soldiers of the Battle of Badr, he (Haritha) was not at the center of fighting and not in the struggle, he just was part of those who were assigned to watch the battle from a place far from the field. Although an undirected arrow killed him while he was drinking from the well, he was gifted the Seventh Heaven (Firdaws). So, what is your expectation regarding those who were at the middle of the battle.”

▪ **Start!**

Start a new phase with the name of Al Ghaffuor. Enjoy as He forgives all sins and be quick in asking for His forgiveness and request His forgiveness by the virtue of complying with His orders and avoiding His prohibitions: **“Say: if you love Allah; then follow me and Allah will love you and forgive your faults and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful”**

¹² Related Sahih Bukhari (289 – 4 / 20)

O Allah! Forgive all our sins whether implicit or explicit and the beginning of them and the end thereof, and classify us among those who find in their papers uncountable forgiveness.

* * *

Al Qari'b "The Near"

One of my friends asked me that moment before his exist from my room in the hostel to write something on a piece of paper to read after my return to my room.

I wrote to him: "He sees you now"

He told me awhile after that he got shocked because of that!

Al Qari'b "The Near"

Have you ever felt with loneliness? Have you ever been let down by a close friend? Have you ever felt that there is a blockage between you and the closest human ever, and he/she cannot understand you like before? Does your soul dearly miss a lover to tell him/her your sufferings?

What do you think if we put this lover and that friend and direct your focus to the One who never disregard you while you approaching Him?

Allah is nearer to you than your jugular vein. With Allah, your life will be featured with tranquility and happiness. He has a great name overwhelmed with beauty and crowned with brilliance. This name is "The Near". Let us go through the name to know its meanings so as to have a close consideration of it and to taste of its supplication in nights of loneliness.

▪ O Allah!

While He wants you to know that He is firm in power, He wants you to be certain that He is nearer to you than your jugular vein.

He hears your words, He sees your deeds and no secret of yours shall remain hidden.

Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- entered the mosque and he noticed that his honorable companions were calling upon their Lord with loud voice, the he told them: **"O people! Take it easy on yourselves. Verily, you are not calling one who is deaf or absent, rather, the One you are calling is All-Hearer, Near (to His servants by His knowledge)."**¹³

After Allah's servant finishes his/her prayer, the respond of Allah is just felt so near; as Allah is near in a way unbelievable to be imagined!

A moving creature belonging to someone got lost and he walked with mind full of thoughts until he met Ibrahim Ibn Adham who asked him about his matter. The man replied: "my moving creature got lost", "O Allah" replied Ibrahim who stood

¹³ Related by Sahih Bukhari (4205 – 5 / 133) & Related by Sahih Muslim (2704 – 4 / 2076)

still and adding: “I will never leave my place until his moving creature came back to him!” Then, the moving creature appeared at the turning of the road!

▪ **For you!**

One of friends told me that he entered the mosque with little water left from his ritual ablution in his ears. He headed to stand at the first row facing the air-conditioner, so cold air entered his ears and mixed with the water left. Then, he felt with the beginning of pain in his ears. He did not open his mouth but his heart uttered these words: “O Allah! This was for You!” Then, his ears started to get recovered with no premises or progression.

What kind of nearness is that to have Allah known all of you internal talks without even moving your lips?

When you prostrate to Allah, you become the nearest to Him whispering: (Glory be to my Lord, the Greatest) and you have all heavens opened to your whisperings and Almighty Allah hears you!

Do not be delusional that Allah is far away from you or any secret of yours is hidden from Him.

The Messenger of Allah –peace be upon him- left his house at the middle of the night and knocked the house of Ubai Ib Ka’ab. Ubai went out to find the Messenger of Allah telling him that: “Allah ordered me to recite Al Fatiha (the Opening Chapter of the Holy Quran) before you”.

“Allah calls me by my name?” said Ubai.

“Yes!” replied the Messenger of Allah.

Ubai cried!

▪ **The Footfalls of Ants...**

He is near from all of His creatures; He sees and protects them.

How can He be the Self-subsisting by Whom all things subsist without being so near to them?

How can He be our Lord without being so near?

His nearness is inclusive to all –knowing, all –hearing, all –seeing, and all –knowledge. It is not a physical nearness of the self; as His high Self is exalted from such nearness.

Because of His nearness as correctly said by our Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- that Allah lands to the lowest heaven at the last third of night, saying: **“Is there any asker to give, is there any prayer to respond, is there any asker for forgiveness to forgive”**¹⁴

Because of His nearness, He hears the footfalls of black ants on deafen stones in dark night.

Allah Almighty says: **“Not a leaf falls but He knows it”**

Imagine the number of trees then extend your imagination to include the number of leaves. Imagine them while they are scattering all over in autumn. He knows that all; He knows their numbers, their forms, their types and anything relevant!

A woman came to plead with Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- about her husband, and Asaidah Aisha (Lady Aisha) –may Allah be bless her- was standing at the side of the house and she said that she almost heard a word and missed the other. After the argument, Gebriel descended from Heaven to Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- with Allah’s revelation: **“Allah indeed knows the plea of her whom pleads with you about her husband and complains to Allah, and Allah knows the contentions of both of you; surely Allah is Hearing, Seeing”**

It is a wonderful nearness, great knowing, all-hearing and far insight.

▪ **He Sees You Now!**

Stretch your hands now? Have you done that? He saw them! You have to believe in that!

One of my friends asked me that moment before his exist from my room in the hostel to write something on a piece of paper to read after my return to my room. I wrote to him: “He sees you now” He told me awhile after that he got shocked because of that!

¹⁴ Related by Sahih Muslim (758 – 1 / 522)

His nearness frightens you and it has to be so.

His nearness keeps you company and it has to be so.

His nearness keeps you warm and it has to be so

His nearness makes you courageous and undisputed champion.

Listen to Him while He is calming down Moses –peace be upon him- after Moses spoke about his fear from going to pharaoh, and He said to him: “**I am with you all hearing and all seeing**”. It is enough; as His Companion is the greatest protection ever for Moses and his brother.

Because Allah is with them, they should not show fear from pharaoh; as they should be undisputed proud champions.

It is said in the books of faith that Allah has two forms of presence: a special presence for those who believe in Him: this special presence is a presence of love, victory and grace, and a general presence for all of His creatures: it is a presence of all knowing, all hearing, all seeing and all knowledge.

Thus, His presence for Moses and Haroun was a special presence which necessitates His victory and His grace. How could they be afraid and Allah promised them to bestow upon them His victory and grace?

The same is applied to those who bore the responsibility like Moses and Haroun; as they while inviting to good and enjoin what is right and forbid the wrong are equipped with knowledge and guidance that the presence of Allah Almighty is with them according to their faith in their hearts and according to their compliance with Allah’s orders. Hence, every caller to the right and forbiddance of the wrong is characterized with power, courage, perseverance and grace, so we feel that Allah’s special presence is surrounding and supporting them.

▪ **Smile!**

An obvious example of Quranic verses which keeps us company in this regard is the saying of Allah: “**Who sees you when you stand (218) And your turning over and over among those who prostrate themselves before Allah**”. How much company do you feel while you say: Allah is Great while praying to Allah.

Allah Almighty tells you about a special kind of seeing which will be dedicated to you while performing such act; as He sees all creatures; those who stand and those who do not. The above-mentioned is a proof that Allah's seeing a servant while praying is a special one not general; as it is a seeing full of love, acceptance, response and forgiveness.

Similarly, a Hadith proofing the above is related by Al Bukhari: Prophet Mohammed –peace be upon him- said: **"What pleases Allah is to listen to listen to a prophet with beautiful voice reciting Quran with loud voice"**¹⁵

Ibn Kathir said: "the above Hadith means that Almighty Allah is to be pleased with listening to the masterly recitation of a prophet of the Holy Quran; as the recitation of Allah's prophets is mixed with the good voice for the perfection of their creation and fear, and this is the ultimate end. Allah Almighty hears the voices of His servants with their righteousness and their immorality. Aisha –may Allah be pleased with her- said: "O Almighty Allah Who hears all voices", yet His hearing of His believers is greater; as He said: **"And you are not (engaged) in any affair nor do you recite concerning it any portion of the Quran nor do you do any work but We are witnesses over you when you enter into it"**, then Allah's listening to His prophets is greater.

If you were stricken by fears, then smile with a remembrance of the nearness of Allah the Exalted.

All things you are afraid of are not nearer to you than Him.

Then, contemplate various matters but shield yourself with optimism! Scatter them with idea that He is nearer to you than jugular vein!

Some preachers mentioned in some ancient times that one was traveling in desert; he was stopped by a bandit who bore his sword with the intention to kill him.

The man told him; "take my money!"

The bandit replied: "No! I will kill you and then take your money!"

¹⁵ Related by Sahih Bukhari (7482 – 9 / 141) and Sahih Muslim (792 – 1 / 545)

Then, the man wanted the permission to pray two prostrations and the bandit gave him the permission. While praying, the man forgot all the Quran except for one verse: **"Or Who answers the distressed one when he calls upon Him and removes the evil"**. The man repeated the verse while praying. Once finished, he saw a strange knight whom he did not know from where he appeared and the knight strike the bandit with sword to cut his head out.

▪ **O Allah the Exalted!**

He is so near. Just move your lips with the taste of mentioning His name and the doors of Heavens will open for you.

Younes –peace be upon him- was in the belly of the whale crying: **"There is no god but Allah, glory is to You; I am surely of those who make themselves to suffer loss"**. However, such weak voice arising from three layers of darkness penetrates the horizon of heavens to be heard by Angels of Allah who told Allah the Exalted: "familiar voice from unfamiliar place"

Allah says in His Holy Hadith: **"If he remembers Me inwardly, I will remember him inwardly, and if he remembers Me in an assembly, I will remember him in a better assembly"**¹⁶. This is because He is near. Just say "O Allah!" and He answers you with mentioning your name!

What an amazing thing to imagine that the King of kings mentions your name, saying: O my servant son Ibn so and so mentions My Name!

All of the worldly life is trivial not even equals to such kind of imagination.

His nearness becomes closer and closer; as by repentance, returning and obedience make you closer to Him. Allah says in His Holy Hadith: **"when a slave of Mine draws near to Me a span, I draw near to him a cubit; and if he draws near to Me a cubit, I draw near to him a fathom."**¹⁷ Thus, every attempt initiated by you to become closer to Him by the virtue of obedience is to be followed by His nearness by the virtue of acceptance, graces, blessings, grants and gifts.

▪ **Have you Reached!**

¹⁶ Related by Sahih Bukhari (7405 – 9 / 121) & Sahih Muslim (2675 – 4 / 2061)

¹⁷ Related by Sahih Bukhari (7405 – 9 / 121) & Sahih Muslim (2675 – 4 / 2061)

Among the meanings of His nearness is that He makes you see something from the surrounding environment to remind you with Him:

You see His wisdom in the accurate formation of His creatures;

You see His power in raising the heavens without any pillars;

You see His mercy in the fall of rains and in the growth of trees;

You see His greatness in the ultimate height of mountains;

You see His chastisement in volcanoes, earthquakes and catastrophes.

Allah the Exalted says: **"We will soon show them Our signs in the Universe and in their own souls until it will become quite clear to them that it is the truth"**

If you see something with your eyes, then your eyes remind you with the All Seeing the Exalted.

If you hear a whisper in middle of night, then what you hear reminds you with the All Hearing the Exalted.

If you know something was unhidden before, then your knowledge reminds you with the All Knowing the Exalted.

In everything there is a sign of Him

Which signifies that He is the One and Only

One day, I was sitting with a group of children with whom I was talking about the thinking of the creatures of Allah. A child said to me: "if you think about the creatures of Allah, you will reach Allah Himself!!" I got surprised! I felt that this child understands these meanings more than us and I should listen to him more than have him listened to me!

He is so near to you and you have just to think about Him to feel His nearness and to feel that He sees you and then you say: "O Almighty Allah"

▪ **If you Ask Him**

"And when My servants ask you concerning Me, then surely I am very near"

Anyone asks you about Allah, the first thing to describe Allah is to say that He is near to Him! The self is broken because it is not yet willing to worship a faraway god who does not listen to its prayers and does not see its needs. One of the most important characteristics to begin with while describing Allah is tell him that Allah is "near". This is the way whereby you have to tell people about Allah as per Allah's teachings!

This nearness does not only make you love Allah, feel His company and fear Him, but also grants you the perseverance to ask for His forgiveness and repenting to Him. On one hand, the Near is worthy to be asked for His forgiveness and to be asked for repentance; as by the virtue of His nearness, He saw your sins and immoral deeds. On the other hand, He is too near to make your asking for forgiveness and repentance fruitful. None will forgive you except the One who hears your asking for forgiveness and none will accept your repentance except for the One who knows your repentance. He is Near and Answering. After that I want you to feel His saying: **"Then turn to Him; surely my Lord is Near and Answering"**.

One of the rarest stories that makes you shy from the Near Exalted is the saying of someone that: "Is not He worthy to be loved by you? At the moment when you close all doors to commit a sin, oxygen enters to you from the beneath of the door so as to keep you alive!"

This nearness is established side by side with the attempt of a servant to be more close to Allah the Exalted: **"Those whom they call upon, themselves seek the means of access to their Lord –whoever of them is nearest"**. It is like a racetrack and it is a competition; and the end of each servant is not to be near to Allah but rather to be the nearest to Him!

- **Among the smokes:**

Among the inflictions which are being lived by nation. Among the smokes, the devastating wars inflict the hearts of believers with suffering and those believers are in need to three levels of knowledge related to the name of the Near:

First: the knowledge of His nearness with belief and certainty to gift the self with a comfort from the suffering of cry and seeking safeguard from humans, yet the

Lord of humans is near and knowing witness. There is a verse with clear signification in the Holy Quran: **"Surely He is Hearing, Near"**. At the gate of this verse, there is the medication for the suffering of the soul and all of the previous sayings are related to the significant level.

Second: among the burning fire of subjugation, seeing the details of scattering objects, destruction of houses, homicides and rottenness of the fruits, a servant may be in need for mercy, may search for mercy and may wish mercy so as to end the suffering tortures of his human fellows and the subsequent malice against him. A pause should be taken at Allah's words: **"Surely the mercy of Allah is near to those who do good to the others."** O Allah! There is nothing between brave knight who vows his soul to Allah Almighty but a transparent veil behind which benevolence exists. This knight has to strive in the earth like an angel in way which makes him feel that he sees Allah! If he does not see Allah, Allah sees him. Thus, he does not shoot a single bullet without knowing why, how and when did he shoot it?! This servant is still striving to move from benevolence to another to earn in return Allah's mercy nearer than his fellows until Allah's mercy covers him from all side and takes him from the smokes of death to the clouds of satisfaction.

Third: days are so long, sighs go consecutively, inflictions become aggravated and siege is closed tightly from everywhere. At that moment, the brave knight looks at a third verse in which Allah says: **"Yet, the victory of Allah is near"**. Since Allah is so near from His servants and since His mercy is so near from His servants who commit themselves to do good deeds, the close victory comes to true on the ground by the knights of Allah: **"Surely; Our knights are the victorious ones"**. By that promise, Allah comfortably supports the hearts of His servants which have been inflicted with the passionate of waiting and which have been fatigued by the so long patience. Thus, they wait such close victory nights and days.

▪ **Allah..**

O Allah! My tears dropped passionately in the fear of You

So have mercy on whining of love within my tears!

O Allah! My heart is with fire burned

So have mercy on the flame of love in my pulses!

O Allah! My words are poured with the longing of my regret

So have mercy on the love inherent in my poetry!

After this tour of deep thinking in the name of Allah "**the Near**". I pray for Allah to have all of us winners of His nearness and to work in accordance with the dictations of this great name, including the meaning of humbleness, obedience, watching and fear along with asking for mercy and victory from Him only.

O Allah! You are near from those who call upon and beseech you, so bestow upon us nearness from Your mercy and guidance and bestow upon us nearness to keep us company, to comfort our souls and their sufferings and to have all in Your Heaven.

Conclusion

Indeed, I become fully acquainted with some of Allah's names. You have to feed yourself with obtaining more knowledge about them and about others. You have to have them as a lamp in your life, as guidance for your heart and as a light of your days so as to win the happiness of this worldly life and Hereafter.

I ask you for a favor, if this book decreases the weight of your pain, draw a smile on your lips or change your state to a better one, do not forget to pray by your heart to the writer of the book and those who provide him with the knowledge, those who support him and their parents as well as all Muslims.

Peace and Mercy of Allah be upon our Prophet Mohammed.

Ali Gaber Alfaifi

Table of Content		
Subject		Page
To	.....	5
Preface	.....	7
As-Samad (The eternal refuge)	.....	11
In the shadow of the meaning As-Samad	.....	13
Waves	.....	15
The thoughts of disbelief	.....	16
The planets	.....	17
And you forget him	.....	18
Seek his eternal refuge	.....	20
Compass	.....	21
Do not attribute equals to Allah	.....	22
Steps	.....	24
Pride	.....	25
A fact	.....	26
Al-Hafiz (The Ever- Preserving)	.....	29
Oh heart, feel at ease	.....	31
Roads of deviation!	.....	33
And we forget Allah	.....	34
Successive Angels	.....	36
Between the brackets	.....	37
Water bottle	.....	38
Greater, huge and bigger	.....	40
He defends you...	.....	41
The valley of the beasts	.....	43
I am the poor	.....	45
Oh lad...	.....	46
suffocation	.....	48
Al-Lateef (the All-Subtle)	.....	51
Gentle in his subtle details	.....	53
Breezes of kindness	.....	55
The rock	.....	57
The concealed and hidden matters	.....	58
The distant dreams	.....	60
Allah's mercy in the crucial moment	.....	62
Ash-Shafi (The Healer)	.....	65

No illness after today	.....	67
He cures you without a reason	.....	70
You don't know	.....	72
The light returns back	.....	73
Return back to Him	.....	74
A predetermined appointment	.....	76
Underline here	.....	78
Satisfaction	.....	80
Rivers of sins	.....	82
Al Waki'l "The Trustee"	.....	85
Take Him as your Trustee	.....	87
An annual plane	.....	89
Submission to Allah	.....	91
Smiling tears	.....	93
Oxygen of life	.....	94
Life is like Hell Without Him	.....	95
Sufficient is Allah to me	.....	96
Persuasive Reason	.....	98
Watch out	.....	99
Thing threatening you	.....	101
Al Shakour "The Most – Thankful	.....	103
He surprises you by His gift	.....	106
Mathematical calculation	.....	107
Mention in the Book	.....	108
An atom	.....	110
Give to be given in return	.....	113
Do good deeds	.....	114
Keep your mouth shut	.....	116
To where?	.....	117
Relief	.....	118
AL Jabbaar (The Restorer)	.....	121
Your broken heart...how did it break?	.....	123
And restore all of me	.....	125
And loose a knot from my tongue	.....	126
He likes to see you smiling	.....	127
The cart	.....	128
83	.....	130
The servant's room	.....	131
The dream and the memory	.....	132

A cup of coffee	.....	134
Be prostrating	.....	135
Al Hadi "the Guide"	.....	137
Shelter	.....	139
It is not a coincidence!	.....	141
No ---- No!	.....	142
A burning brand of light	.....	144
A lost compass	.....	145
Then Allah guides you	.....	147
Swamp	.....	148
A paper!	.....	149
Lifeline	.....	150
Al Ghaffour "the Ever – Forgiving"	.....	153
Imprisonment	.....	155
Do you know?	.....	156
My sins	.....	157
Have you forgotten	.....	159
Blessedness	.....	161
Do not despair	.....	162
The greatest will!	.....	163
The most beautiful	.....	165
Do not get surprised!	.....	165
Start	.....	167
Al Qari'b "the Near"	.....	169
O Allah!	.....	171
For you!	.....	172
The Footfalls of ants	.....	173
He sees you now!	.....	175
Smile!	.....	176
O Allah the Exalted!	.....	178
Have you reached?	.....	179
If they ask you	.....	181
Among the smokes	.....	182
Allah	.....	183
Conclusion	.....	185

